Gothenburg State Bank Still Pioneering.





President's Message 1st Quarter 2013

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Over the past months there's not one of us who hasn't felt frustration and disappointment with what's happening in Washington. From the White House, the halls of Congress, or the offices of our regulators, we hear a great deal of rhetoric and experience very little, if any, positive action. We can and must do better.

Our bank has made a positive contribution to help Congress and our regulators understand how well-intentioned rules and regulations promulgated in Washington can severely damage the ability of a bank to deliver products and services to its customers. Last fall we hosted the Deputy Director for Policy Research from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau at our bank in Gothenburg. He witnessed first-hand how rules and regulations do affect our ability to provide services, and how important those services are to our community. As a result of this trip, proposed regulations were changed into a more workable form. Two months ago we hosted a similar group from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. They again witnessed the importance of banking to our economic growth and stability. In March newly elected Senator Deb Fischer spent time in our bank talking with bank officials and community leaders about her new role in the Senate.

All of this shows that even though we at times are frustrated, it is our responsibility to step up and communicate concerns so that our elected and appointed officials in Washington can do a better job. The world is full of dreamers and achievers and the difference between the two is action.

I'm very proud of our bank for our "action" in this area and I challenge each one of you to step up and make a difference. Whether you are a banker, ag producer, or area business person, you can get involved and make a difference. It all comes back to people -- people doing what's right. We take that challenge and responsibility seriously at the Gothenburg State Bank.

Matthew H. Williams

Max Williams

President

