

## BELLEVILLE KIWANIS HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

Bill Stevens moved to Belleville from Beaver Dam in 1983 to become minister at Grace United Methodist church. A long time Kiwanian, Bill needed a new club home and recognized a need for a service club in Belleville. Bill began contacting community members and organizational meetings were held beginning June 16, 1983 at Sugar River Inn (presently Corner Café). With the help of the Monroe Club, John Fochs- district new club chair, and special efforts of Madison Kiwanians Dale MacCutcheon, Art Peterson, and Duwayne Roweder and Monroe Kiwanians Jim Glessner and Jud Kindschi a new club was born.

- Chartered August 25, 1983 in ceremony at Idle Hour Mansion hosted by sponsoring Monroe club.

Bob Belle charter - president

Fred Bonacker 1<sup>st</sup> VP

Dan Sullivan 2<sup>nd</sup> VP

Don Austin -treasurer

Bill Stevens -sec'y

1984

- First Salvation army bell ringing
- First Travelogue Program-Norway
- First Scholarship-Ruth Pauli
- Dale McCutcheon of Middleton Kiwanis sells us his first pancake day tickets to be repeated for next 15 years
- **Home club of the Wisconsin-Upper Michigan Kiwanis governor Bill Stevens**

1985

- First Junior High Achievement Awards
  - Carrie Bryan
  - Jim Himeline
  - Kris Dux
  - Beth Gile
  - John Konapacki

1986

- First World Affairs seminar student - Amy Gochenauer
- Bill and Doris Stevens receive Kiwanis Hixson awards
- Owen Pilgrim community service award

1987

- Chartered Belleville HS Key Club
  - Traci Anderson Pres
  - Jackie Brown-VP
  - Tammy Peters-Sec'y
  - Amy Gochenauer- Treas
- First Carp-o-ree
- First Lake cleanup
- First flight of Paul Ziehli's UFO in parade
- Bob Belle community service award

1988

- First chili dinner at St Mary's
- Key club discontinued

1989

- First women members Judith Gerenger-Edge, Becky Ziehli
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade career day
- Jack and Marion Adams honored

1990

- Decorate Main Street for holidays
- Holiday food drive

1991

- Borland's becomes our new home
- First bike rodeo

1992

- Allen Bros Circus July 6- our largest fund raiser
- Gail Petersen becomes our first woman president
- First lake restoration tree sale

1993

- Tenth anniversary 19 members
- Mark Meier - community recognition dinner at Borland's

1994

- IDD club committment
- Green county Dairy Day food stand
- Bill Smith roasted

1995

- Owen Pilgrim moves south

1996

- First Lawn and Garden Show
- Hendrick's Bros circus
- Monroe K was 75 years old
- Jerry Remy receives outstanding Kiwanian award

1997

- Kids, Kows and Kiwanis
- Depot Days

1998

- Garage Sale - Wisconsin Children's Hospital
- Hwy 69 Informational Meeting

1999

- **Home club of Lt. Governor of Division 4 Larry Russell**
- Record fund raisers in food stands, garage sale and chili dinner.
- Hosted governor's visit at Pres house in Madison.
- Newest members: Judy Babler, Leah Sailor and Fid Sailor.

2000

- Record travelogue fund raiser
- Continued IDD support \$339
- Membership down 1 to 25

2001

- Revived "Movie in the Park" – a great success
- 4 foodstands at Jim's earned \$450
- Added "Life Skills Scholarship" high school award
- Company store at District convention in Madison
- Belleville celebrates 150<sup>th</sup> Village anniversary

2002

- Sponsored children's games at community picnic
- Linda and Larry Russell received governors meritorious award
- Artist on the island food stand unsuccessful
- Hosts at Heartsong open house
- Exceeded IDD commitment

2003

- Belleville Kiwanis 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- Bob Belle serves 3<sup>rd</sup> term as president
- Safe Kids Bike Helmets program
- Peanut fund raiser supports camp wawbeek path paving

2004

- Family Movie in the park
- Lawn and garden show
- UFO food stand and float
- 20<sup>th</sup> Travelogue series

2005

- Larry Russell serves second president's term
- Garage sale of Don Nelson estate to fund youth projects
- Dairy Days Kazoo band
- Election refreshment stand at polls

- First Key Leaders students to Camp Wawbeek

2006

- Carol Keller initiates 7AM board meetings
- Thrive senior flu clinic with Belleville Seniors
- Heifer International with 4H
- Youth library activity bags with Dane county extension

2007

- Carol Keller serves second president's term
- First Books (now called bookworms) preschool reading program in Belleville
- Election day food drive
- UFO float
- Family Movie in the park with Express Fitness Children Fun night

2008

- **Home club of Division 4 Lt. Governor Carol Keller**
- Expanded Bookworms to 45 children with increased community support
- President Sandy Bubenzer moves board meetings to 7:30A (Yea)
- Community garden planted, tended and harvested to fill area food pantry needs (with Methodist church)
- Pediatric bags supplied to Belleville and New Glarus EMS. Coordinated donations from local organizations and UW Health foundation as part of first lady Elaine Anderson's district project.
- 25 year club anniversary celebration in Belleville Community Park

2009

- **Home club of Division 4 Lt. Governor Carol Keller (second term)**
- Form alliance with Belleville Economizers homemakers club to staff 2 community Red Cross blood drives per year.
- Bookworms becomes totally Kiwanis/Economizers project providing books and readers to 48 preschoolers in 4 classes.
- Don Austin memorials for youth scholarships
- Begin pancake breakfast with Verona Kiwanis to support MDA Jerry's Run in Verona.
- Local history presentations begun with chili dinner (Jerry Remy-"Stewart Tunnel")

2010

- Lawn & Garden Show / Chili dinner combined
- Bookworms grows to 66 children
- Sight of Senses activity centers
- Hometown Days with Verona club
- Breakfast on the farm volunteers

2011

- Reach a child backpacks
- Camp Wawbeek trip
- Bookworms expands to 6 locations for over 70 children
- Lawn and garden event
- Lighted School Crosswalk signs

2012

- Gazebo/library flags
- Jack Short Honor Flight
- Bookworms reaches over 80 children

2013

- Focus on autism – Three student I pads given
- Established Bob Belle Memorial Education fund
- World Affairs seminar renewed at Carroll University
- Safety street crossing flags
- 30 year celebration booth at Lake Fest in community park

2014

- Street pedestrian crossing flags
- Jack Short memorial to honor flight
- Started little library at the corner café
- Jr High awards at Montrose

2015

- 2 Key Leader scholarships
- Support of school artist in residence
- Support of project “eliminate”
- 2 day garage sale a success

2016

- Canceled chili dinner/travel show due to staffing shortage
- Worked Farm Technology Day
- 2 World Affairs seminar scholarships
- Great garage sale made up funding problem

2017

- JoAnn Gruber-Hagen serves record 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive term as president
- 1<sup>st</sup> chili/taco dinner and travel show with Boy Scout troop 61
- Jr High awards (now called Middle School Awards) to the school library
- Ginny Nichols memorial to the Belleville library

2018

- Middle School awards and reception made part of school awards day
- Joanne Cate memorial to education awards
- Support of community library and veterans memorial
- Even “greater” garage sale
- Presented 9<sup>th</sup> student ipad and special learning App

In retrospect we started with 26 charter members of whom 18 became involved in club service. Over the 35 years we have had 100 total members including those first members. We have 3 active charter members: Fred Bonacker, Paul Cate, and Jerry Remy.

We have become a vital part of our community and the Kiwanis mission because of all the members who have served our efforts over the years.