



# Sheboygan County 4-H Alumni Association



March 2019

## From the President

**W**OW! This has been one winter! From warm weather to rainy weather to snow storm to way below zero weather to sleet and back to snow. I know I am ready for the birds to sing, the flowers to grow and just to have the sunshine and the fresh air smell.

A reminder that the Alumni Scholarships are due April 1, 2019. Please check out the 4-H website for the application. The Alumni Association is also looking for nominations for the 2019 Alumni Award. Please use the form found in the newsletter to submit a nomination if there is an alumni you believe would deserve the award.

Our "Alumni Award Celebration" will be held June 23, 2019 at Racers Hall in Plymouth, WI from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Please see more details in the newsletter. We look forward to seeing you there.

The summer is fast approaching and families are getting ready for 4-H activities or family vacations. May we keep the 4-H motto in mind *"To Make the Best Better!"* I wish you all a safe and happy summer.

Your Alumni President  
*Heidi Widder*

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## Alumni Board Members

**President:** Heidi Widder  
**Vice-President:** Nicole Twohig  
**Secretary:** Barb Meinnert  
**Treasurer:** Skeeter DeGross

**Directors:**  
Linda Barthels  
Judy Glander  
Kay Keyes  
Sue Laack  
Frank Steiner

## 4-H Memorial Wall of Honor

**T**he Sheboygan County 4-H Clubs have a Memorial Wall of Honor. The wall is a triangular shape made out of oak and is located in the 4-H Youth Building at the Sheboygan County Fair. It was created by the 4-H Leaders Association in 2002 in memory of Roland Nohl, whose name was synonymous with 4-H and its members. The purpose of the wall is to show recognition to all of those special people who felt 4-H was important and had a spot in their hearts where it was always in high esteem, and they were always trying to find ways to make it better.

To date there are 75 names on the wall. The individual names are added with a special note or date, saying or inscription as dictated by the person or persons who have decided whom

they want added. “We encourage people to donate to the wall and put their loved one’s name on to support the 4-H program and honor the loved one who has passed away and know that 4-H was an important part of their lives.”

If your club or family would like to put a loved one’s name on the wall, just fill out the form located on the 4-H website with the information necessary with a minimum of \$100 that can be designated to any part of the 4-H program – example: Camp Riversite, scholarships, trips, awards, alumni, etc. It is a great way to remember love ones and their love of 4-H. It is never too late to honor someone. Former leaders, parents or anyone who has influenced 4-H or young people about 4-H.

## Betty Opgenorth

**W**e lost another Alumni member . Betty Opgenorth was a Alumni Association Lifetime member.

Betty passed away at the age of 91 on February 15. She was married to Earl Opgenorth.

## Reverend Howard Knox

**W**e lost another Alumni member this past year.

Reverend Howard Knox died Dec. 5, 2018 at the age of 99. He was a charter member of the Alumni Association. In 2007 he lost his wife Pearl.

Howard was the 1<sup>st</sup> 4-H agent in Sheboygan County from 1946 – 1952. He was known for saying “*There is nothing wrong with kids that 4-H can’t fix.*”

The Alumni Association is placing Howard and Pearl’s name on the Wall of Honor.



## 2019 Alumni Association Awards Celebration

**C**ome and join us for the Annual Sheboygan County 4-H Alumni Association Awards Celebration on **Sunday, June 23rd, 2019 at Racer's Hall, Plymouth** starting a 3:00 pm with our annual meeting. Afterwards, we will have a variety of appetizers and a short program to give out our awards and scholarships. The cost of the food to each Alumni member will be \$5.00.

Please send reservations **by Friday, June 14, 2019 to Treasurer, Skeeter DeGroff, W3894 Playbird Rd, Sheboygan Falls, WI 53035.** Please contact Skeeter if you have any questions at 920-4678128.

Just a reminder that you can also send your 2019 annual dues (\$10) along with your cost of the food.

## It's Easy to be on the 4-H Alumni Board

**P**lease consider running for the *Sheboygan County 4-H Alumni Board.*

Just six meetings a year: February; April; May/June (banquet); July; September and November.

There are 6 committee's you can choice from to be a part of:

1. Banquet: find location, decide menu, program; etc.
2. Alumni Award: review applications for the alumni award and present the award at the banquet.
3. Scholarship: review applications, select winners, and award the scholarships at the banquet.

4. Nominating: Outgoing board members solicit new candidates for the Board.

5. Fair Display: Decide what theme would be good to promote 4-H, the alumni, and/or the history of 4-H at the county fair.

6. Silent Auction: Make up a basket for the 4-H silent auction at the county fair.

Memberships is open to former 4-H members, past or present 4-H parents, 4-H leaders, or any person interested in supporting the 4-H program.

It is really a rewarding experience and you get to meet really great people who are interested in the 4-H program and all that surround 4-H.

## Got News to Share?!?

**T**he Alumni Board would love to feature Alumni member's celebrations in the upcoming newsletters! These celebrations could range from special anniversaries, births of children and/or grandchildren, new jobs, special 4-H memories, even how 4-H has impacted your life, or anything else that is special to you. This will be an amazing way to learn about our fellow member's lives that they might desire to share.

If you wish to share please notify Tammy Zorn at: [tammy.zorn@sheboygancounty.com](mailto:tammy.zorn@sheboygancounty.com)

Or send to:

UW-Extension Sheboygan County  
Attn: Tammy Zorn  
5 University Drive  
Sheboygan, WI 53081

## 2019 Sheboygan County 4-H Alumni Award Nomination Form

**Recipient:** \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly describe the contributions of the individual:

Individual completing the nomination: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return by: April 8, 2019**

**To: Sheboygan County 4-H Alumni Association  
5 University Drive,  
Sheboygan, WI 53081**

**(Please feel free to add an additional page, if needed)**

## Have You Paid Your Dues Yet?

**H**ere is a list of people that have! paid!  
Please send in form on the next page to  
renew your membership!

### 2019 Paid Members

- Linda Barthels
- Wally & Margaret Born
- Judy Glander
- David & Elizabeth Haag
- Helen Harms
- David & Michelle Johanning
- Fritz & Jeanne Johanning
- Wayne & Kay Keyes
- Leslie Kleinhans-Blad
- Joe & Kelly Koenig
- Sue Laack
- Emily Meinnert
- Michelle Meinnert
- Donna Menart
- Sharlene Meyer
- Andrew Taylor
- Walter Taylor
- Cindy VanderWeele
- Jared VanderWeele

### Lifetime Members

- Skeeter DeGroff
- Tim DeGroff
- Rosemarie Dickman
- Elaine Fiedler
- Kathy Froh
- Virginia Hall
- Joanne Howe
- Gary Kaestner
- Gene & Kathy Kaestner
- Scott Kaestner
- Marlene Kammann
- Anna Kleinhans
- Nathan Kleinhans
- Randy & Sue Kleinhans
- Kristine Lubenow
- Betty Martin
- Barb Meinnert
- Debra Meinnert
- Stanley & Sharleen Meinnert
- Earl & Betty Opgenorth
- Kelly Rauch
- Edith Rohrbeck
- Staci Schluechtermann
- Daniel Sippel
- Frank Steiner
- Patty & Jim Taylor
- Nicole Twohig
- Jamie Tyrrell
- Elizabeth Widder
- Heidi Widder

## New: “Bill Jens 4-H Alumni Grant”

**T**he Bill Jens family has gifted monies to be used for youth needing some financial support that want to attend State & National trips/events. The “Bill Jens 4-H Alumni Grant” Program will provide financial sponsorship for 4-H members whose families are experiencing a financial hardship. The Jens family has donated a large amount of funds as seed money for this new adventure that the alumni board has accepted in Bill's memory. Bill Jens was a key advisor for starting the Sheboygan County 4-H Endowment fund and the Sheboygan County 4-H Alumni Association.

The alumni board believes it would be a great honor to start this new program in his memory.

Now people can donate money in memory or honor of others to the alumni either for the scholarship fund or the grant fund. This gives the alumni association another great opportunity to help our young people with lifetime experiences.

Application is on page 7 and 8.



Mail to: Skeeter DeGroff  
Treasurer  
W3894 Playbird Rd  
Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085

### ***Bill Jens 4-H Alumni Grant Application***

The Bill Jens 4-H Alumni Grant Program provides financial sponsorship for 4-H members whose families are experiencing a financial hardship.

To apply, complete the two page application. The first page is for Department Staff only and is handled in a confidential manner. The first page gives the Department Staff an opportunity to make recommendations for you to receive a grant & fill in any other information needed to complete the application. The second page is for the 4-H Alumni board to review and determine how much they will give to the applicant. This does not mean funds being requested will be filled and only partial amounts maybe made.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

4-H Club \_\_\_\_\_ Yrs. In 4-H \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Funding request for:

4-H Camps: up to \$50

4-H Conference – Madison: up to \$75

Trips/events under \$1000: up to \$150

Trips/events over \$1000: up to \$300

(over)

### ***Bill Jens 4-H Alumni Grant Application Part II***

The Bill Jens 4-H Alumni Association has been gifted monies from a donor to be used for youth needing **some** financial support that want to attend State & National trips/events.

#### Information Needed:

1. Total cost of camp/trip/event: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Funds provided by Sheboygan County 4-H Leaders Association: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Funds provided by Kohler/other grants: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Members club – amount they pay: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Amount Applicant is requesting: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Applicants portion: \_\_\_\_\_
7. Belongs to 4-H club: \_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_no 4-H Spin Member: \_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_ no
8. How long in 4-H: \_\_\_\_\_

Department Staff recommendation: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Mail your completed application marked confidential to:

Sheboygan County 4-H Alumni/Linda Robson,  
5 University Drive  
Sheboygan WI 53081

#### Funding request for:

4-H Camps: up to \$50

Trips/events under \$1000: up to \$150

4-H Conference – Madison: up to \$75

Trips/events over \$1000: up to \$300