



# Sheboygan County 4-H Alumni Association



March 2024

## From the Vice-President

**D**ear 4-H Alumni Association Members,

The major focus of your Alumni Association is to support youth opportunities. As you know, 4-H offers a wide range of opportunities to develop hard skills (technical knowledge and techniques) and soft skills (leadership, teamwork, goal setting, etc.). While 4-H delivers knowledge through classroom type settings, the majority of its learning opportunities come through hands on activities. 4-H engages the whole person and kids learn while having fun.

Through your generosity and the generosity of the family and friends of Bill Jens, your association is offering grants for 4-Hers with financial need to participate in out of county trips and camps. Through your support kids have attended a wide variety of camps (Base, Outpost, Space, Drama, etc.) and gone on an equally wide variety of trips (4-H Congress, American Spirit, Citizenship-Washington Focus and more). The width and breadth of the opportunities is impressive. If a 4-Her can dream it, there probably is a 4-H opportunity to explore it and your Alumni can help reduce the financial burden. Please encourage kids with a dream and a financial need to apply for a Bill Jens grant.

The other major way that your association supports youth opportunities is through our post-secondary education scholarships. Many of our scholarships are memorials to past 4-H leaders and we try to match scholarships with students with similar interests. 4-H Alumni scholarships are possible because of your generosity. Thank you! Please encourage any former 4-H members who are pursuing post-secondary education to apply. Eligibility requirements as well as the application deadline are included in this newsletter.

Applications for both the Bill Jens Grant and the Alumni Scholarship can be found on the Sheboygan

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County 4-H website: <https://sheboygan.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/leader-information/4-h-alumni-association/>

Until the next newsletter, keep making the best better!

Pam Hodgson

## Alumni Board Members

**President:** Sue Laack  
**Vice-President:** Pam Hodgson  
**Secretary:** Linda Barthels  
**Treasurer:** Skeeter DeGroff

**Directors:**  
Tanya Arentsen  
Judy Glander  
Kaye Hau  
Lisa Lutzke  
Sarah Mauk  
Dan Sippel

## 2023 Alumni Award Winners



Left to right: Tanya Arentsen, Alumni Board and Randy Meyer 2023 Alumni Award Winner.

### Randy Meyer

Randy Meyer has been an integral part of Sheboygan County 4-H for many years both on the club and county levels. He was not only a project leader, but also a co-general leader for several years with the Madison All Stars. He later started a new 4-H club in Sheboygan, the Pigeon River Parakeets. On the County Level, Randy took on leadership roles with Camp Riversite and the Leaders Association along with being on various committees. He held offices of Treasurer, President Elect, President and Past President (twice). He managed the 4-H Food Stand for 10 years, giving up personal vacation time and countless hours making sure everything was organized ahead of time and ran smoothly throughout each fair season. His dedication and efforts ensured the success of this very important fundraising component for the county program. On a personal level, his dedication to 4-H extended well beyond the time his own kids were involved in the program. He was a role model and mentor to many kids throughout his years of being involved. His influence and leadership have had a lasting impact on the 4-H program on the county and club level. Thank you Randy!

### Warren Clemens



Left to right: Tanya Arentsen, Alumni Board and Warren Clemens 2023 Alumni Award Winner.

Warren Clemens was awarded the esteemed Meritorious Service award in 2014. The fact that he is still involved with 4-H almost a decade later is a testament to why Warren is an alumni honoree.

Warren has been involved in the poultry project since he was a child. His father taught him and his brother Charles all about the breeds of American Chickens. They showed 50 Breeds of chickens at the fair through out their 4-H career. He currently has 30 breeds of chickens. He has been teaching 4-H kids the American Standard of Perfection from the American Poultry Association for 26 years. Warren has taught his boys all about poultry & now he is teaching his grand kids along with all the 4-H kids in the poultry project. Warren is the man to call with any questions about birds. No matter if its chickens, pigeons, turkeys, ducks, etc.

Warren is well known and liked in the community. His meetings are not only educational, but fun and exciting. Kids love talking to him about their birds and he explains in detail what needs to be done and makes sure everything is taken care of in a timely manner. Because of his efforts, there were 600 birds in the poultry barn at this year's fair. When we asked around about Warren, the words of affirmation and gratitude for him were abundant. We hope this award is a lasting reminder for Warren of our deep appreciation for all he has done and continues to do for our program!

# 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!

## 2024 Paid Members

- Linda Barthels
- Frank Bartzen
- Judi Bogenschutz
- Walter & Margaret Born
- Allen, Debbie, Jason & Nicole Fenner
- Judy Glander
- Dave & Liz Haag
- Kaye Hau
- Cheryl Jens
- John Jens
- David & Michelle Johanning
- Jeannie Johanning
- Wayne & Kay Keyes
- Lisa Lutzke
- Donna Menart
- Kent Olson
- Barb Scholten
- Dan Scholten
- Henry Umstadt Jr

## Lifetime Members

- Tanya Arentsen
- Skeeter DeGross
- Tim DeGross
- Rosemarie Dickman
- Kathy Froh
- Luke & Liz Gartman
- Virginia Hall
- Nancy Henschel
- Pam Hodgson
- Joanne Howe
- Phil Jens
- Gary Kaestner
- Gene & Kathy Kaestner
- Scott Kaestner

- Marlene Kammann
- Anna Kleinhans
- Nathan Kleinhans
- Randy & Sue Kleinhans
- Alisha Klemme
- Michelle Klemme
- Sue Laack
- Kristine Lubenow
- Betty Martin
- Barb Meinnert
- Debra Meinnert
- Matthew Meinnert
- Stanley & Sharleen Meinnert
- Earl Opgenorth
- Kelly Rauch
- Melanie Roehrborn
- Edith Rohrbeck
- Staci Schluechtermann
- Daniel Sippel
- Frank Steiner
- Andrew Taylor
- Patty & Jim Taylor
- Walter Taylor
- Nicole Twohig
- Jamie Tyrrell
- Cindy VanderWeele
- Elizabeth Widder
- Heidi Widder

Membership form on next page.



## Alumni News: Your Money at Work

All scholarship funds go to the scholarships and all grant money goes towards grants. Dues is used for running expenses and further support of the 4-H program.

Two well deserving people received the 2023 4-H Alumni Award: Warren Clemens and Randy Meyer. For their many years of service and dedication

In January we paid the 2023 scholarship winner Jayden VanHelden \$1,000.

A young lady went to 4-H Zoo Apprentice Camp at Busch Gardens in Tampa, Florida. She learned about becoming a zoo keeper.

## Save the Date 4-H Awards and Recognition Program

The 4-H Awards and Recognition Program is held the last Monday of November and Hosted by Acuity Corporate Headquarters.



November 25, 2024

## Sheboygan County 4-H Alumni Association Membership Dues Form

Sheboygan County 4-H Alumni Association Membership Dues Form

### 2024 Alumni Association Membership Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

2024 Annual membership dues: \$10.00 per member \_\_\_\_\_

Lifetime membership \$175.00 per member \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship Donation \_\_\_\_\_

Bill Jens Alumni Grant Fund \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Enclosed** \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: **Sheboygan County 4-H Alumni Association**

Return to:  
Skeeter DeGross, Treasurer  
W3894 Playbird Rd  
Sheboygan Falls WI 53085



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

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

Just four meetings a year: April; July; September and November.

There are 5 items we deal with as a board. They are as follows:

1. Alumni Award: review applications for the alumni award and present the award at the awards program in November at Acuity.
2. Scholarship: review applications and select winners.
3. Nominating: Outgoing board members solicit new candidates for the Board.

4. 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.

5. 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.

If interested fill out the self nomination form.

## 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.

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.

## Sheboygan County 4-H Alumni Scholarship

**D**ue: April 1st

### Eligibility:

- A. Applicant must be a 4-H Alumni or currently a member of the Sheboygan County 4-H Program.
- B. Applicant must be graduated from high school at time of applying for scholarship and planning on attending a college or technical school including certificate and diploma program for the upcoming school year.
- C. Recipient will only be awarded one scholarship from the 4-H Alumni Association
- D. Must be a 4-H member for a minimum of 5 years.

### Requirements:

- A. Completed 2-part application
- B. Three dated letters of recommendation from current school year.
  - One from 4-H representative (not a parent or a 4-H agent)
  - One from any other source.
  - One from current college/technical school educator.
- C. Copy of most current unofficial transcript.

## Bill Jens 4-H Alumni Association Grant

**A**lumni guidelines are:

Depending on number of applications & application itself.

\* 4-H Camp: up to \$50

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

\* 4-H Conference – Madison: up to \$75

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

### Eligibility:

- A. Youth needing some financial support that want to attend out of county, state or national trips or events. (Example: American Spirit trip; CWF; 4-H camp; Drama Co.; etc.)
- B. Following information needed: Name of club or if a spin member; How long in 4-H; Any other funds provided: (example, club, Kohler grant, Leaders Association, etc.).

### Requirements:

- A. Event name & total cost.
- B. Due dates: when funds are needed & when event is happening.
- C. Leader or parent comments.

Application can be found at: <https://sheboygan.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/4-h-alumni-association/>

# 2023 Donations to the Alumni Association

**T**hank you everyone who supports the Sheboygan County 4-H Alumni Association with your donations.

**In Memory of:**

**Peter Talen** ..... Tim & Patty Talen

**Mary Ann Sommer** ..... Nancy Kissel

**Elaine Fiedler** ..... Mark & Kathy Froh  
George & Donna Menart  
Ann & Timothy Haack  
Gerald & Marilyn Meyer  
Ellen Leonhard  
Majestic Crossing Dairy LLC

**Eunice Lensink** ..... Mark & Kathy Froh  
George & Donna Menart

**Fritz Johanning** ..... Skeeter DeGross  
Joe & Kelly Koenig  
David & Elizabeth Haag  
Mark & Kathy Froh  
Barb Meinnert  
Jeff & Deb Meinnert  
Joanne Howe  
Henry Umstadt

**Russ Heuver** ..... Skeeter DeGross  
David & Elizabeth Haag

**Janice Brass** ..... Wallace & Margaret Born  
John & Sue Born  
Dave & Liz Haag  
Dan Born  
David Born  
Jeff & Deb Meinnert

**Betty Opgenorth** ..... Earl Opgenorth

**Mark Opgenorth** ..... Earl Opgenorth

**Dan Fritz** ..... Jeannie Johanning

**Jim Henschel** ..... John & Sue Born  
Dave & Liz Haag

**Alan Harms** ..... Margaret & Wally Born

**Alyce Beeck** ..... Dave & Liz Haag

**Donors to Scholarship Fund:**

Joe & Kelly Koenig

Jim & Patty Taylor

Randy & Sue Kleinhans

Donna Menart

Frank Bartzten

Joanne Howe

Jeff & Deb Meinnert

Mark & Kathy Froh

Skeeter DeGross

David & Elizabeth Haag

Wallace & Margaret Born

John & Sue Born

Dan Born

David Born

Earl Opgenorth

Jeannie Johanning

Ellen Leonhard

Gerald & Marilyn Meyer

Ann & Timothy Haack

**Donors to Grant Fund:**

Cheryl Jens

John Jens

Donna & George Menart

Barb Meinnert

Earl Opgenorth

Frank Umstadt



*In Honor of:*

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

*my donation to the*

*Sheboygan County 4-H Alumni Association*

*for the:  scholarship fund  Bill Jens grant fund*

*With sincere greetings from:*

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*In Honor of:*

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

*my donation to the*

*Sheboygan County 4-H Alumni Association*

*for the:  scholarship fund  Bill Jens grant fund*

*With sincere greetings from:*

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*In Loving Memory of:*

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

*my donation to the*

*Sheboygan County 4-H Alumni Association*

*for the:  scholarship fund  Bill Jens grant fund*

*With sympathy from:*

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*In Loving Memory of:*

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

*my donation to the*

*Sheboygan County 4-H Alumni Association*

*for the:  scholarship fund  Bill Jens grant fund*

*With sympathy from:*

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_