

# The Greater Cedarburg ...NOW AND FOREVER FOUNDATION

A Newsletter for the Friends of the Cedarburg Foundation

Twenty-fifth Edition — Summer 2015

## Dick Dieffenbach Receives Civic Award

Described as “a common guy working to make the world a better place one day at a time,” Dick Dieffenbach was presented the 2015 Civic Award by the Greater Cedarburg Foundation at its 13th annual civic celebration on May 13. In making the award presentation, GCF board member Barbara Janssen referred to Dick as a “humble servant” and stated: “We are all so lucky to have Dick in our community.”

Born in New York City, Dick attended Bowdoin College in Maine, graduating in 1965 with a major in math and a minor in economics. He was a member of his college Army ROTC and was commissioned at graduation. While serving his country in Texas, he met his wife Dayle.

After service, Dick returned to school and earned his MBA at Rutgers University; he later served as controller for the state of Maine. In 1980, he was offered a position in the Midwest region by KPMG, an international accounting firm, and was eventually made a partner. The Dieffenbach family — daughter Kristen and twin boys David and Ken — have called Cedarburg their home ever since. In 1990, Dick formed Dieffenbach and Associates, a community based CPA practice in Thiensville.



Greater Cedarburg Foundation President Chris Smith, left, presents Dick Dieffenbach with the Foundation's annual Civic Award

Second only to his dedication to his family is Dick's dedication to his community. As a volunteer, ready to serve wherever needed, Dick has been honored by many organizations. In 1995, the City of Cedarburg issued a

resolution recognizing him for his years of service as a council member, committee and commission member. He was cited for his work in the areas of economic development, intermunicipal, interagency and interdepartmental cooperation, and financial planning. Dick was instrumental in the creation of the first tax incremental district in the city of Cedarburg and served as a member of the Forward Cedarburg Board, developing the first business park in the city. His public service continues today as a member of the Ozaukee County Board.

Some of Dick's other accolades include ...

- A 25-year honorary membership in the Cedarburg Fire Department for assisting with financial reporting for the department's Maxwell Street Day activities.
- A citation by the Cedarburg Light & Water Commission for his 16 years of service.
- An award from Ozaukee Bank in 2008 naming Dick their Volunteer of the Year.

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## GMF Gifts \$200,000 for Cedar Creek Park Project

A new band shell will serve as the centerpiece of a reimagined Cedar Creek Park and a permanent gift to the people of Cedarburg from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation in partnership with the Greater Cedarburg Foundation.

In celebration of its 100th year of service, the Greater Milwaukee Foundation is providing regional gifts to help create lasting public spaces in each of the four counties it serves. The Foundation's centennial gift of \$200,000 supports the band shell renovation as part of a larger initiative to improve Cedar Creek Park led by the Cedarburg-Grafton Rotary Club, Greater Cedarburg Foundation, Cedarburg Parks and Recreation Department and the City of Cedarburg.

“This project will give the people of Cedarburg a renewed place to gather and play, fitting for this vibrant city,” said Ellen M. Gilligan, president and CEO of the Greater Milwaukee Foundation. “The renovation of this band shell in the heart of downtown reflects perfectly our intention to support public spaces that further energize a community.”

The five-acre Cedar Creek Park serves as a meeting place, concert venue, picnic area and playground for the community. The band shell is host to the weekly Summer Sounds concert series, festival events and Fourth of July activities.

The renovation entails replacing the existing, 50-year-old band shell with

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GMF gift (from pg. 1)

a substantially larger facility that will include an enlarged stage, an extended roof, storage space for musical equipment and all new electrical service and lighting. Improved landscaping will complete the park plan. Local architectural firm, Groth Design Group, donated its services in designing a new facility using natural timbers and stone capable of attracting larger bands, accommodating theatrical performances and providing a better overall experience for the audience.

The Greater Milwaukee Foundation worked closely with the Greater Cedarburg Foundation to identify the band shell as the project that would have the most positive impact in the community. The Greater Cedarburg Foundation is a supporting organization and regional partner of the Greater Milwaukee Foundation.

“This is a wonderful gift from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation, and we were quick as a foundation to present this project, having many ideas we were considering,” said Chris Smith, president of the Greater Cedarburg Foundation. “It shows the community how strong the partnerships between organizations like Rotary and their community foundation are, with the shared goal of improving what already is a great place to both live and visit.” ■



The band shell at Cedar Creek Park will undergo a major renovation thanks in large part to a \$200,000 gift from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation. Holding a rendering of the new structure are, from left, Mike Groth of Groth Design Group which donated its time to provide the architectural design for the new band shell; Chris Smith, president of the Greater Cedarburg Foundation; Ellen Gilligan, president and CEO of the Greater Milwaukee Foundation; Ryan Olsen, a member of the Cedarburg-Grafton Rotary which has committed \$150,000 to the project, and Mikko Hilvo, parks & recreation director for the City of Cedarburg.

## 10 Organizations Benefit from Grants

The Greater Cedarburg Foundation awarded more than \$47,000 to 10 area non-profit organizations as part of its annual grant cycle review. Recipients were recognized at the GCF Civic Event, held Thursday, May 13, at the Cedarburg Cultural Center.

“Once again, we were very pleased with the number and the quality of the requests we received this year and are proud to be helping these organizations make a difference in the community,” said Joe Fazio, grant committee chairman.



Joe Fazio, foreground, chairman of the grants committee of the Greater Cedarburg Foundation, congratulates representatives of various nonprofit organizations that received more than \$47,000 in grants from the foundation. They include (standing left to right), Madeline Borkin of Best Buddies Wisconsin, Mary Ann Velnetske of Ozaukee County Historical Society, Heather Cain of the Cedarburg Art Museum, Melissa Wraalstad of Wisconsin Museum of Quilts & Fiber Arts, Jenny Mueller of Wisconsin Humane Society Ozaukee Campus, Nicole Bulow of Big Brothers Big Sisters and Sally Arneson of the Cedarburg Performing Arts Center Visiting Artists Series; (sitting left to right) Kathryn Klemp of Art Oasis, Ross Rintelman and Andy Peterson of Mel's Pig Roast and Mary Knetter of Advocates of Ozaukee.

Organizations receiving grants include:

- **Advocates of Ozaukee** for an addition to its administrative office to accommodate group and individual counseling sessions
- **Cedarburg Performing Arts Center Visiting Artists Series** to offer a master class for Cedarburg High School students by a celebrity performer
- **Best Buddies Wisconsin** for a program that helps students at Cedarburg High School and Webster Transitional School form one-on-one friendships with students that have intellectual and developmental disabilities
- **Big Brothers Big Sisters of Ozaukee County** for a new program that will provide eight structured events a year for youth and their mentors
- **Cedarburg Art Museum** for an outdoor festival garden located behind the museum that will serve food and beverages
- **Mel's Pig Roast** to purchase items that will assist with the group's fund-raising events
- **Art Oasis**, a program which provides classroom-based art classes for people with disabilities operated by New Life Church

- **Ozaukee County Historical Society** for the construction of a multi-purpose facility at Ozaukee County Pioneer Village
- **Wisconsin Humane Society Ozaukee Campus** for the PAL (People Animals Learning) program that takes at-risk youth and teaches them how to train dogs to be ready for adoption
- **Wisconsin Museum of Quilts and Fiber Arts** to modify the air conditioning system for better climate control in the Preservation Room where the fiber art collection is housed

The Greater Cedarburg Foundation has assets of more than \$3 million comprised of an endowment and donor advised funds. The foundation's mission is to preserve the local cultural heritage, enhance artistic endeavors and support educational, social and community-based services in the Greater Cedarburg area.

Since its inception, the Greater Cedarburg Foundation has awarded nearly \$1.2 million in pass through grants and endowment grants to deserving projects and nonprofit organizations in the community.

The grant cycle begins each year in October, when applications are available on-line at [greatercedarburgfoundation.org](http://greatercedarburgfoundation.org). ■

## LEGACY SOCIETY

Listed below are members of the Legacy Society - a group of individuals who share a commitment to support and sustain the many programs and projects that enhance the Greater Cedarburg Area. For information on becoming a member of the Legacy Society, please see our website or call Chris Smith at 414-765-3633.

*\*deceased*

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Don* and Carol Alexander	Kristofor and Allison Hanson	David and Anne Pagel
Daniel and Amy Argall	Paul and Philia Hayes	Jim and Sandy Pape
Scott and Sheri Austin	Richard and Ellen Haynes	Katie Rintelman Pipkorn
James and Susan Baillon	Jill Hepburn	Ann Rintelman
Mark and Victoria Benskin	Mal and Jill Hepburn	Karen Rogers
Bud and Kay Beverung	Patti Hepburn	James and Patricia Rothenbach
Charles Birts	Steve and Jodi Heston	David and Carol Schenker
Dr. Justin Braun and Tracy Schowalter-Braun	The Hoven Family	Andy and Andrea Schlidt
Ted and Patty Brueggemann	Ralph Huiras*	Jon and Joan Scholz
Richard C. Buser	Richard and Barbara Janssen	James and Jennifer Schowalter
Steve and Heather Cain	The Jenkins Family	Steve Schowalter
Vince and Katherine Cameranesi	Pat and Nancy Kennedy	Robert A. and Marcia Schroeder
James and Vicki Capadona	Bob* and Evelyn Klug	Paul and Christy Schwan
Tim and Kathy Carr	Bruce and Shirley Krenzke	Michelle and Andrew Schwartz
James* and Sally Castle	Dennis Krings	Bob and Louise Schwengel
Bob and Judy Chmielewski	Genie Kroll	Jim and Judy Schwengel
Rob and Patty Clapper	Jon and Kelly Kuck and Family	Christine Stroebel-Scimeca
John and Amy Cordio	Diane Lane	Chris and Sara Smith
James W. Coutts	Mark and Lori Langholz	Susan and Mike Smith
Chad and Regina Curran	Jedd Lapid	Nelle Steele
James and Joyce Dhein	Mike and Teresa LaRosa	Jack and Lindy Steinbrecker Family
Alice Dickmann	Steve and Karen Leonard	Eric Stelter
Dick & Dayle Dieffenbach	Ben and Janice Levy	John and Dale Stevens
Jerry and Peg Edquist	Janet and Donald A. Levy	Duey and Laura Stroebel
Joe and Lisa Fazio	Delores and Lowell K. Levy	Carrie Sutherland
David & Patty Flowers	Robert and Maria Loomis	Kevin and Donna Taylor
David and Beth Fritz	Allan and Jane Lorge	William James Taylor
Loren* and Anita Fritz	Dale and Barbara Lythjohan	Frank and Barbara Trummer
Brandon Goldbeck	David* and Kathleen Mathias	Thomas and Lisa Vogt
Randall L. Groth, Sr.	Mary Lou McPhillips	Jerry and Alice Voigt
Judy and Robert R. Guse	Thomas and Catherine Multerer	Kay R. Walters
Jack and Susan Hale	James H. Myers	Susan Graham Wernecke and William A. Wernecke Jr.
John and Ronnie Hammes	Barbara and Layton Olsen	Sue and Bill Wernecke
Dr. Michael and Patty Hansen	Ryan and Megan Olsen	Greg Zimmerscheid and Mary Kay Bourbulas
Lew and Lorraine Hanson	Gail Ostermann and Robert Uhren	

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## FOUNDERS

Armbruster Jewelers	Dean and Francine Fitting	The Levy Family
David and Vicki Bergstresser	5 Corners GMC Truck	M & I Foundation
C.J. (Bud) and Kay Beverung	The Freeman Family	Newman Chevrolet
The Biegert Family	Greater Milwaukee Foundation	Barbara and Layton Olsen
Donald and Helen Buettner	Jack and Susan Hale	Ozaukee Bank Foundation
Calibre, Inc. - Todd Roberts	Paul and Philia Hayes	Merlin and Gladys Rostad
James and Sally Castle	Hepburn "Bootstrap" Foundation	Duey and Laura Stroebel
Cedarburg Light and Water Utility	Gordon and Jean Hepburn	The Tillmann Family
Cedarburg-Grafton Rotary Club	Mal and Jill Hepburn	In Honor of Paul Trappe
Brian and Cathy Collins	Jim and Laura Kacmarcik	Tri-Par Qwik Stop
Chris Doerr	Pat and Nancy Kennedy	U.S. Bank Foundation
Marilyn and David Doerr	Koehler Insurance Agency	The Wernecke Family
Carl and Rita Edquist	Sharon and Bill LaMacchia	Whyte, Hirschboeck, Dudek S.C.
	Landmark Preservation Society	The Wirth Family

# Peg Edquist Retires from Board

After 11 years of serving on the board of the Greater Cedarburg Foundation, two of those years as president, Peg Edquist has completed her final term. "I am really proud of the accomplishments of this organization during my time on the board," Edquist said.

In addition to helping with the President's Gala for 10 years, Edquist also served as the editor and writer for the GCF newsletter and spearheaded marketing efforts that gained greater visibility for the organization. As president, she initiated the annual grant cycle, which has helped to streamline the grant approval process and provide a better forum for evaluating applications.

During her presidency, the board approved a grant of \$100,000 to help build the new library. "That was a very special moment for me," she said. "It's wonderful to see what an impact an organization like ours can have on the community."



The Greater Cedarburg Foundation honored three of its retiring board members at its annual meeting held recently at the Cedarburg Cultural Center. They are, from left: director Jack Hale, past president Peg Edquist and director Jim Myers.

Edquist and two other retiring board members, Jack Hale and Jim Myers, were recognized at the GCF annual meeting in June.

The board is welcoming three new members: Mark Langholz, Tim Wilkinson and Heather Cain. "All share extensive involvement with community non-profits, foundations and schools and we are excited to have them join our team," said GCF President Chris Smith. ■

## Dick Dieffenbach (from pg. 1)

Behind the scenes, Dick has been a tireless helper ... ringing the bell for the Salvation Army, coaching his child's soccer team, making chili for a homeless shelter and flipping burgers to raise money for worthy causes. Many non-profit organizations, including our very own Greater Cedarburg Foundation, have benefitted from Dick's financial expertise as a member of their board of directors.

The Civic Award annually honors people who have made a significant contribution to enhance the greater Cedarburg community.

Previous recipients have included Merlin Rostad, Carl Edquist, Ralph Huiras, Robert Armbruster, Edward Rappold, Don & Janet Levy, M.D. "Mal" Hepburn, Layton & Barbara Olsen, Jim & Sandy Pape, Jim Coutts, Paul & Philia Hayes and Jim Lee.

Dick requested that half of the \$1,000 grant that goes with the award be given to the Cedarburg Cultural Center in honor of its founder, Carl Edquist, and that the remaining funds go to the Cedarburg High School "Wall of Inspiration" and the Schlitz Audubon Society. ■

## ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

### Board of Directors:

Carol Alexander-Coutts	Dale Lythjohan
Mark Benskin	Layton Olsen
Heather Cain	Gail Ostermann
John Cordio	James Schowalter
Barbara Janssen	Tim Wilkinson
Mark Langholz	

### Foundation Officers:

Chris Smith  
President

Joe Fazio  
President-Elect

John Cordio  
Vice President

Dan DenBoer  
Treasurer

Terri Haas  
Secretary

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The Greater Cedarburg Foundation is a community trust that establishes endowments and administers the income thereon for the betterment of the greater Cedarburg area. The Greater Cedarburg Foundation works closely with the Greater Milwaukee Foundation, where it maintains an affiliation. Gifts to the Greater Cedarburg Foundation are tax deductible to the extent applicable under relevant tax law.

Photos in this newsletter courtesy of the Ozaukee County News Graphic: Mark Justesen & Deb Kranitz, photographers



## Save the Date!

Be sure to mark October 17th on your calendar. That is when the Greater Cedarburg Foundation will hold its annual President's Event to raise awareness for the Foundation's mission.

This year, the celebration will take place at the Cedarburg Cultural Center with some exciting new events planned for the evening. Watch for your invitation with all the details later this summer. ■



[www.cedarburgfoundation.com](http://www.cedarburgfoundation.com)