A Newsletter for the Friends of the Cedarburg Foundation

Forty-first Edition — Summer 2023

# Peter Wollner Post 288, The American Legion Receives GCF Civic Award in Memory of James W. Coutts

On May 17, the Greater Cedarburg Foundation presented the 2023 GCF Civic Award in memory of James W. Coutts to American Legion Peter Wollner Post 288. This award was given in recognition of the significant contribution that Peter Wollner Post 288 has made to the community of Cedarburg over its more than 100-year history.

With its 365 veterans, 200-plus auxiliary members and 65 sons of The American Legion, Peter Wollner Post 288 has truly lived out The American Legion's mission to "enhance the well-being of veterans, their families, our military and our communities by our devotion to mutual helpfulness."

The American Legion was chartered by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization. The post in Cedarburg was founded in 1920 and was named for Peter Wollner, the first Cedarburg resident killed in World War I in 1918. As one of 13,000 posts worldwide, Peter Wollner Post 288 continues to serve veterans and their families, promote a strong national defense and build unity and support in our community.

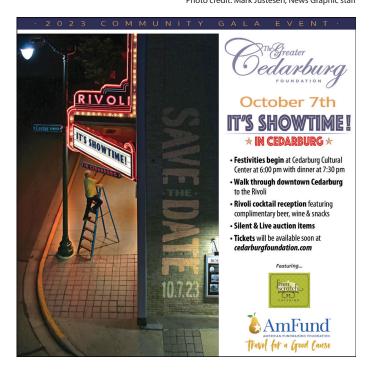
Many of us know Post 288 for its popular fish fry and traditional Cedarburg Memorial Day parade. But the Post does so much more for its own and for our community. The Color Guard leads off the Memorial Day and 4th of July parades each year, and the Honor Guard – considered one of the best in the state – provides military honors for deceased veterans. Other services to veterans include making regular visits in nursing homes, providing financial assistance and doing "buddy checks" twice a year.

Additionally, Post 288 is proud to contribute to the community outside its walls. The Post sponsors two Boy Scout troops, funds academic scholarships at Cedarburg High School and sponsors students to attend programs such as Badger Boys and Girls State and the Wisconsin American Legion Law Enforcement Academy.

Peter Wollner Post 288 has designated Mel's Charities as the recipient of the \$1,000 cash gift given to the GCF Civic Award winner each year.



Commander Peter Jaeger, GCF President Joe Rintelman, and members of Peter Wollner Post 288 Photo credit: Mark Justesen. News Graphic staff



For more information about Peter Wollner Post 288, please check out https://cedarburgfoundation.com/gcf-honor-legion/

#### Seven Organizations Receive Grants

The Greater Cedarburg Foundation has awarded \$58,000 to seven area non-profit organizations as part of its annual grant cycle process.

"These organizations and projects are an integral part of Cedarburg's fabric," said Joe Rintelman, GCF President. "The passion each brings to their projects and programs improves our community. We are grateful for the opportunity to support their efforts."

Organizations receiving grants for the 2023 annual GCF grant cycle review include:

- Cedarburg Cultural Center to improve parking lot lighting, enabling future nighttime artistic and cultural experiences and enhancing safety for visitors
- Cedarburg Music Festivals to re-wrap and re-brand the Airstream trailer used as a "green room" for visiting artists performing at Summer Sounds
- Cedarburg Public Library to purchase two new computers for its Literacy Stations, one for early literacy and one for school-age children
- Family Promise of Ozaukee County to help purchase and install outdoor playground equipment at its Portlight homeless shelter
- Ozaukee County Historical Society to help restore the 1940
   Milwaukee Road rib-side caboose located on the tracks in front of
   the Cedarburg Train Station at Ozaukee County Pioneer Village

- Riveredge Nature Center to support the "You Belong Here" initiative to make nature accessible to all by installing two wheelchair friendly ramps
- Town of Cedarburg to purchase and install dugout covers to the Town's Little League fields at Korb Sports Complex

"Because of the vision of our founders and generosity of our donors, GCF is able to support a variety of social, arts, history and educational programs that make Cedarburg a special place to live," said Vince Cameranesi, GCF Grant Committee member.



(L-R) Paul Jungbauer (Town of Cedarburg Parks & Recreation), Sue Schrader (Cedarburg Cultural Center), Linda Eastwood (Cedarburg Public Library), John Wallus (Cedarburg Music Festivals), Sharon Cross (Riveredge Nature Center), Joe Rintelman (Greater Cedarburg Foundation), Cori Guerin (Family Promise of Ozaukee County), Barb Janssen (Family Promise of Ozaukee County), Joann Steidinger (Family Promise of Ozaukee County), Connie Pukaite (Family Promise of Ozaukee County), Mary Ann Velnetske (Ozaukee County Historical Society)

Photo credit: Mark Justesen, News Graphic staff

#### GRANT SPOTLIGHTS ...

## Re-wrapping the Summer Sounds Trailer

On Friday nights in the summer, Cedar Creek Park is a gathering place for locals and visitors alike to enjoy great music, great food and fun with friends. Now in its 20th year, Summer Sounds is a 10-week music festival that presents various genres of music performed by touring artists. The free, family-friendly concerts draw approximately 5,000 people each week.



The Greater Cedarburg Foundation recognizes the importance of Summer Sounds in bringing thousands of visitors to our community each summer. Ten years

ago the Foundation helped purchase a vintage Airstream trailer to be used as a "green room" for the touring artists who perform each week. The Airstream has become the strongest representation of the Summer Sounds brand.

After 10 years, the graphics on the Airstream had faded and both repairs and cosmetic enhancements were needed. The Greater Cedarburg Foundation was pleased to award Cedarburg Music Festivals a grant to re-design and re-wrap the Summer Sounds Airstream trailer. "Summer Sounds is grateful for the generous support the Greater Cedarburg Foundation has provided our event over the years. This year, your grant allowed us to enhance this great community event through the purchase and installation of refreshed graphics and repairs to the Airstream which you helped us purchase 10 years ago! This event would not be possible without your ongoing support. Thank you!," said John Wallus, Co-President of Summer Sounds.

## Let There Be Light!



The Cedarburg Cultural Center continues to expand its offerings as the cultural hub of our community. In addition to providing performing arts, visual arts, educational classes and a venue for community gatherings, the Cultural Center has expanded its footprint to its exterior.

The Greater Cedarburg Foundation awarded the Cedarburg Cultural Center a grant to improve its parking lot lighting. Lighting in the parking lot has allowed the Cedarburg Cultural Center to launch the Ozaukee Night Market on the first Thursday of each month from May through August. The Ozaukee Night Market



offers a combination of art, craft and food vendors, live art creation, music and a bar/gathering space. The goal is to create a free, vibrant, safe and interactive place in downtown Cedarburg for people to experience culture at night.

The GCF grant to purchase and install light poles and light fixtures enables a safer nighttime parking experience for both the Cedarburg Cultural Center and local organizations that use the parking lot when they host events at the Center. Executive Director Sue Schrader said, "We are so thankful for the support of the Greater Cedarburg Foundation in awarding us this grant. These funds will help increase, quite significantly, our evening events in our parking lot, including our new Ozaukee Night Market. It also solves a safety issue."

### Shade for the Little Leaguers

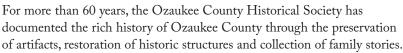


Cedarburg Little League was sanctioned by Little League International in 2010 and since then, more than 6,000 children in our community have played in Cedarburg Little League. This year alone, there are more than 450 youth ages 4-15 and 80 volunteer coaches participating on 40 different baseball, softball and tee ball teams.

The addition of the Korb Sports Complex off of Hwy 60 has helped grow Little League in the Greater Cedarburg area. The Korb Sports Complex has eight diamonds in total for baseball and softball. Currently the dugouts are made of chain-link fence and have no coverings. With sports seasons running from April to October, players are exposed to the elements.

In recognition of the importance of team sports and its many benefits to young athletes, the Greater Cedarburg Foundation has awarded a grant to the Town of Cedarburg to install dugout covers at the Little League fields. Dugout covers will contribute to both the safety and enjoyment of players. Town of Cedarburg Director of Parks and Recreation Paul Jungbauer shared, "We would like to thank the Greater Cedarburg Foundation for their grant to the Town of Cedarburg to install dugout covers at the four Little League fields."

## Reconstructing a Rare Caboose





In 1995, the Historical Society obtained a 1940 Milwaukee Road rib-side caboose, which is one of only nine that still exist. The caboose sits on the railroad tracks directly in front of the recently restored Cedarburg Train Station at Ozaukee County Pioneer Village. A grant from



the Greater Cedarburg Foundation will help renovate the caboose. The renovation project includes steel repairs, metal fabrication, painting, lettering and interior reconstruction. The renovation of this rare caboose will complement other restorations of the Cedarburg Train Station and make it a more attractive destination for railfans and historians. The goal is to complete the renovation project by November 2023.

Ozaukee County Historical Society President Mary Ann Velnetske said, "We thank the Greater Cedarburg Foundation for their generous grant for the Caboose Restoration Project. We are also most grateful for their support for various projects over the years."



### Legacy Society Members

Listed below are members of the Legacy Society – a group of individuals sharing a commitment to support and sustain the many programs and projects that enhance the greater Cedarburg area. If you want to join this club, please print out and complete the Legacy Society membership form found at www.cedarburgfoundation.com and mail to: Greater Cedarburg Foundation, P.O. Box 711, Cedarburg WI 53012. For more info on becoming a Legacy Society member, leave a message with the Greater Cedarburg Foundation at 262-377-7338.

Don\* and Carol Alexander
Daniel\* and Amy Argall
Scott and Sheri Austin
James and Susan Baillon
Mark and Mary Jane Baumgartner
Mark and Victoria Benskin
Bud and Kay Beverung
Charles Birts
Dr. Justin Braun and Tracy
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Susan Graham Wernecke and William A. Wernecke Jr.

Sue\* and Bill Wernecke

Gary and Lisa Wickert Tim and Nancy Wilkinson

Greg Zimmerscheid and Mary Kay Bourbulas

\*deceased

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Krisie Augustine-Mansell
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Ryan Fitting
Patty Gallun-Hansen
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John Katzka
Kevin Kennedy
Lauren McMillen

Special thanks to outgoing GCF board members Blaine Gibson, Kip Kinzel and Mark Langholz whose service is much valued and appreciated!

Jack Steinbrecker

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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.



www.cedarburgfoundation.com