

So and Sew

So and Sew Homemakers Club began in 1962. One of their longest running projects was on the flag of our country. This project covered two years. They had a float in the July 4th parade in Pardeeville. They prepared and handed out pamphlets on how to display the flag and the days that were set aside as special days for its' display. The members sold pocket folders about the flag. Money raised from the projects helped them donate a flag pole to the Angie Williams Cox Library.

and Alma Keith, are still members of the club 61 years later. At one time, the membership included three generations from a family. Many of the 14 members today are daughters or daughters-in-law of former members. Some of the present projects are serving cookies at the Dalton Bank on a Senior Citizens Day, donating food to a food pantry and contributing money to the Sheriff Department's Teddy Bear Project.

Pumpkin Hollow

The club began meeting in 1918 for community get-togethers such as picnics and ice cream socials. The name for the club came out of the blue because there were two other clubs in the area. Today, they hold a silent auction for the Teddy Bear Project.

Pleasure Hill

The Pleasure Hill Homemakers began in about 1930. At this time, representatives came from Madison to the Court House in Portage to give the lesson. One person from each club would take the lesson and bring it back to the group. The Pleasure Hill Homemakers took their name from the Pleasure Hill School.

Riverside

In 1941, a group of women met at the home of Mrs. Ben Hall (now Rose Sumnicht) to form a homemakers group. They called it the Riverside Homemakers as several women lived on the Fox River and an area school was called Riverside. They met in members homes and learned how to clean sewing machines, make braided rugs, many kinds of breadmaking, the minute patch, and much more.

PARDEEVILLE CENTER

BELLE FOUNTAIN BELLES

Belle Fountain Belles did not choose to make a banner. They were organized in December 1949 with 16 members. Today they have 5 members who meet socially and do crafts together.

Castle Builders

The Castle Builders were organized in 1962 in the Swan Lake and Lake George area. Half of the membership is teachers so their interest and volunteerism is centered around the schools. The Y.E.H. representative, Terri Amend, is President of the Little School in Portage. Our county president, Bobbie Goodman, belongs to this club.

Marcellon

One of our oldest clubs, Marcellon, was organized in November of 1930. The lessons came from Extension Agents in Madison. They have 19 current members but at one time had 40. The name came from the township where they lived. Meetings were the second Tuesday of every month and the hostess would receive a homemade gift. At one time, the gift was a quilt block.

North Scott

In the fall of 1927, ten women from the northern part of Scott Township met at the home of Luella Breneman to organize the North Scott Homemakers. Two charter members, Nellie Barden

Hampden

Hampden Homemakers Club jelled as a club in late 1935 or early 1936. A group of housewives eager for outside stimulation, self-improvement, social involvement and neighborly sharing gathered together. In the early years, the projects were presented by Extension Agents who came from Madison. Sessions were held in town halls or local schools. Most of these lessons were "hands on", such as sewing and tailoring, canning and preserving, making soap and perfume. The meetings were all day affairs with a pot-luck dinner at noon. My, how times have changed!

Bennett

Bennett Homemakers began meeting in the early 1930's. The group formed as an offspring of the Bennett School Mother's Club. These ladies held all day meetings at the Otsego Town Hall, with pot-luck dinner and then adjourning to a member's home for the project lesson and social time.

FALL RIVER CENTER

Hopeful

Hopeful Homemakers club was organized in September 1967. The original name was Hope and Friendliness. It is believed the name was chosen to signify hope for the future and friendliness which the club would share. In 1981, the club name was shortened to Hopeful Homemakers. The club is involved in many community service projects in the Rio area.

Handi

Handi was chosen as the name to express their perception of a homemaker; someone who uses their hands to be handy and helping. And outstretched hand with an E on the palm has become their identifying symbol. The club began in October 1966.

Otsego

Otsego Homemakers held their first meeting in September of 1955 at the Otsego School. There were 13 charter members. Their club has been involved with many projects at Columbian Manor, Wyocena. They have enjoyed many educational tours to different parts of Wisconsin.

King's Corner

The family of one of the charter members, the Fred Kings, lived at the intersection of County Highway A and Moore Road, thus, it became known as King's Corner. There was a school and cheese factory across from the King home. Stacia Lonergan helped organize the sixteen members in October 1944. Five charter members still belong to the eleven member club.

Woodside

Woodside Homemakers, as so many other clubs, used the name of one of the two school districts in which the members lived. The 4-H club took the name Welsh Prairie. The club was organized in 1930.

Merri-Moms

Organized in November 1969, with the help of Margaret Patchin, Home Economist, and Mae Kooaleske, Cambria Center Chairman. Eleven members chose the name "Merri-Moms". They were all real young members with small children.

Prairie

Members of this club came from the Prairie School District. The organizational meeting was held in the Sunday School rooms of the Olivet Presbyterian Church in Cambria in 1930.

Town and Country

Town and Country was organized in the fall of 1986 by friends and acquaintances from in and around the Poynette area. They have a wide range of ages in the group, and try to do something to interest everyone.

Twilight

In March of 1950, twelve ladies gathered to form a homemakers club. It was an evening meeting with a beautiful sunset, thus the name "Twilight".

Lewiston

In March 1949, twelve women gathered to form a new homemakers club. Most of them lived in the north part of Lewiston Township so chose the name Lewiston. The first lesson, given by Stacia Lonergan, was patching overalls. Every spring they have a combined meeting with Levee and 49'ers homemakers clubs.

Newport

The farm women of Newport Township formed a homemaking group during the 1930's. They appointed Tena Christopherson and Jenny Thompson to meet with University of Wisconsin specialists in Portage to receive plans and instructions for the winter's work lessons. In September 1940, the Newport Homemakers Club was officially organized through the Home Economics Cooperative Extension, College of Agriculture of the University of Wisconsin. In 1942, Stacia Lonergan was hired as Columbia County's first Home Agent.

Newport Neighbors

Newport Neighbors was organized after the Newport Club, so the name "Newport Neighbors" was chosen to distinguish it from the other club. This club met in the evening because of small children. There were 20 members when first organized. Now, there are only 7 members. Times have changed as well as the involvement.

WISCONSIN DELLS CENTER

Acornettes

In 1974, a homemakers group was organized in the Oaklawn subdivision in Wisconsin Dells. Many of the members complained about all the acorns that dropped each fall from the oak trees. Thus came the name - Acornettes.

Fireside

Fireside Homemakers Club was organized in the fall of 1963 with the help of Margaret Patchett, Home Extension Agent. Twelve members chose the name "Fireside" as they sat around the fireplace in a members home. An annual white elephant sale provides monies for nursing home birthday parties, books for the library, support to groups such as AFS and many other community projects. Each year they take an educational trip out of town.

Levee

The Levee Club was organized in September 1949 with the help of Stacia Lonergan. The lesson at the first meeting was the "minute and a half patch". Their name was taken from the Levee School in the neighborhood. Afternoon meetings were held in members homes until there were more young children present than members. Since that time, meetings have been held in the evening. They still include their families for a pot-luck meal and an evening of cards in September, and also for their Christmas party.

Jacob Low

Formerly, this club was called the Lowville Homemakers. Then when the Jacob Low country schoolhouse was closed, they decided to change to "Jacob Low" to keep the name in our neighborhood.

Lowville Center

Organized in 1948 with sixteen members joining. This club dines at a local supperclub once a year with their spouses, has a sunshine committee, and a secret pal. The Club has received a merit award from the County Home, and they contribute to many causes. The Club now has 16 members with 3 of these charter.

New Settlers

Pauquette Featherdusters

"Pauquette Featherdusters" first meeting was September 1974. Their first project was giving needed gifts to the Christian School. They have provided food for the Centennial Wagon Train in 1976, worked at the Mannor, provided Easter baskets for Pardeeville Special School, May baskets for the elderly and shut-ins, and many other projects.

Pine Hollow Moonbeams

"Pine Hollow Moonbeams" began in 1967. The woods surrounding them is known as Pine Hollow and they meet in the evenings, so goes the name.

Potpourri Homemakers

Potpourri was organized on October 1, 1979. The name "Potpourri" means "a little bit of everything", and was chosen to reflect the members diverse interests.

POYNETTE CENTER

Arlington Neighbors

Starting with the name, Leeds Center Homemakers, in 1938, some of the members moved to Arlington and after picking up a few new members, the name changed to "Arlington Neighbors", as 6 of the members lived on the same street. They have been active at the Wyocena Nursing Home.

Dekorrra

This group was started in 1943 with Stacia Lonergan at the Dekorrra School. Many members of the Mothers Club wanted something more out of their club, so reorganized into the "Dekorrra Homemakers". One of their first projects was to clear away all of the brush and plant flowers at Dekorrra Park, and restore the Dekorrra well. Other projects include work at Wyocena Nursing home, the Columbia County Fair, and this year, the blood drive in Poynette.

Farmette

"Farmette" Homemakers Club was formed in 1971. This name was chosen because all members do not live on farms but do live in the country. This club has received several awards for community participation.

Inch

Starting out as a mother's club, in 1938, the "Inch" Homemakers were organized. They first met in the evening with a lesson on the cleaning of a sewing machine (treddle) and spent until 2:00 A.M. in the morning, putting it back together. This was with the County Agent attending.

Stitch and Chatter

Organized originally as a neighborhood sewing group and officially as a Homemakers group in 1940. Selection of the club name resulted from members bringing their mending and chatting with their neighbors. The club is involved in various volunteer activities.

LODI CENTER

Country Women

Started as a mother's club and became a Homemakers Club in the 1940's. They are country women.

Leeds Highlighters

Was formed in the 1930's. They were looking for a name that was different and since they were from the Leeds area, "Leeds Highlighters" was chosen. They have been involved in many special projects and with the Wyocena Nursing Home.

Oakwood

In 1948, ladies of the Oakwood School District met with County Agent, Stacia Lonergan, to organize "Oakwood" Homemakers. Club members are involved in various volunteer jobs and activities outside the home with hospitals, quilting, 4-H work, and the Fair annually.

PAL

Organized in 1947, the original club name was Pleasant Valley Homemakers. It was changed to PAL when the members were from the Poynette, Arlington, and Lodi areas.

PEPPY SIXTY-NINERS

"Peppy Sixty-Niners" was organized about 1949. Their first lesson was "minute patch on a sewing machine". Projects include Wisconsin Center for the Disabled, Empty Stocking Club, work at nursing homes, and at the Portage and Lodi fairs.

Sparkettes

Their first meeting in October of 1958 was held in the home of Mrs. Sparky Vollker. Thus the name "Sparkettes" evolved.

Spin and Chin

There were several suggestions for names given and voted on. The name "Spin and Chin" won by a majority vote. The name was suggested by Mrs. Elva (Oscar) Staveness.

Helpful Lassies

"Helpful Lassies" first regular meeting was held in January of 1982. Their main business was to select a suitable name. "Helpful Lassies" was chosen being they were all ladies (lassies) who desired to help where and when needed.

Moon Glo's

The name "Moon Glo's" was chosen in 1963 because all were young mothers who had to get children ready or in bed before they met for a much needed 'night out'. Many times their meeting didn't get started before 9:00 p.m. By the time they left, the moon was really out and they were all aglow with the helpful thing they had learned that evening. They are a service-minded club.

Petticoats

The name "Petticoats" was chosen because it represented feminine characteristics such as homemaking skills, cooking, sewing, mending, etc. In the late 1950's when the club was founded, stiffly starched crinoline petticoats were very popular.

Round Robin

"Round Robin" was organized in 1944 as the Columbus Homemakers. They were asked in 1958 to choose a new name, and since their method of communication was known as "Round Robin", it became their new name. They have participated in the State Centennial Celebration, donated to charities, hosted foreign exchange students, bought a clock for City Hall, and has been a very involved group at County level.

South Columbus

In 1945, hearing of other surrounding homemaker groups, decided to form one of our own.

COLUMBUS CENTER

Black Sheep

"Black Sheep" started in 1985. The six charter members had all been members of a bowling league. They broke from that league to form their own league, calling it "Black Sheep". When forming a homemakers club, they decided to use the name "Black Sheep". It leaves people wondering! This group is very involved in YEH.

Busy Lizzies

"Busy Lizzies" was formed in 1965. They have over the years done many projects for the Columbus Care Center and the Columbus Community Hospital.

Buzzin Dozens

"Buzzin Dozen" organized in April of 1960. Several ladies had attended a sewing class at the local high school and decided they would like to keep meeting. The group kept growing so they had to add an "s" to their name. A big project for them is a wall hanging at Columbus Care Center that is now changed seasonally.

Dot Dash

To decide on a name by a deadline, and since all members were busy dashing around and twelve in the club, someone suggested "Dot Dash Twelve". At some time, they dropped the "Twelve".

Happy

In 1945, while happily rocking in her chair, the hostess of that first meeting suggested, Why not call us the "Happy" Club since we are all in such a happy mood. So, "Happy" it became.

Idle Hour

A group of friends and neighbors thought "Homemakers" would be a good way to spend their "Idle Hours". Through the years this group has been far from Idle, learning to improve self, home, family and community.

Jolly

Eighteen Happy homemakers chose the name "Jolly" in 1951. Three charter members still remain.

Something Special

"Something Special" was organized in 1986. Ages and backgrounds of the members varied and the fact that they got together for companionship made them "Something Special". Activities include wrapped gifts for Santa's Workshop, and a teddy bear for the local Sheriff's Department.

PORTAGE/CALADONIA CENTER

Caladonia

The Caladonia Homemakers Club was formed about 1933. It was a smaller branch of the Caladonia Neighborhood Club. In past years, they have met the needs of many in the Caladonia area.

Circle

Seventy-five years ago, a group of women met at a little church to make curtains. In 1930, the circle of women who met at church became Circle Homemakers. Over the years, they have always had a Fall Banquet, and keep involved in community affairs.

Durwards Glen

Durwards Glen School Mothers Club became the Durward Glen Homemakers Club about 1943. During those war years, the women saved their extra ration coupons to have gas to send members to leader training. The name comes from the Durward Glen Historical landmark located in the neighborhood.

Forty Niners

A group of Lewiston women met in August of 1949 to organize a homemakers club. The name "Forty Niner" comes from being organized in 1949 and being the 49th club in Columbia County. They have volunteered at Nursing Homes in the area.

Garrison

The Garrison Homemakers Club was organized in 1952, at the Garrison School in Fort Winnebago Township.

CAMBRIA CENTER

Rosedale

This club was one of the first organized in Columbia County by Gladys Meloche in 1927. They met in the Rosedale Church parlor. The members lived in the Rosedale School District.

Cambria

This club was founded in 1949. Most of the members are from Cambria so that was the name chosen.

Jess

Jess Homemakers were organized in 1952 at the home of Mrs. Ellis Faulkes. Miss Stacia Lonergan, the Home Economist, called the meeting to order. Seven members were present. The club was named for the school district members lived in. Two charter members are still active members.

Rustic

Rustic Homemakers were residents of the Rustic School District in the Town of Courtland. The club was organized in 1947 with 20 members. Six charter members still belong to the club.

Kozy Korner

"School Consolidation" were the buzz words on everyones lips in 1954. The corner of Hwy B and G in Springvale Township was being called "Seven Mile Corner" and was a possible site for the new Union Free School for Rio, Pardeeville, Cambria, Randolph, and Fall River. Many of the members live within a few miles of this corner so the name Kozy Korner seemed right for the times.