

BROWN DEER SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB **A SHORT HISTORY**

June, 1973



The Brown Deer Senior Citizens Club formed under the auspices of the Brown Deer Recreation Department, Village of Brown Deer and School District of Brown Deer. Assistance was provided by Recreation Director Bob Rundle and Public Health Director Barbara Bechtel. Membership was open to Brown Deer residents 55 years of age and older. 118 residents were charter members.

A Steering Committee (later called Advisory Committee) provided club leadership. First year committee assignments comprised Membership, Newsletter, Sunshine, Refreshments, League Bowling, Tour and Travel, and Legislative Affairs. Club meetings and activities were held at the Brown Deer Village Hall.

February, 1974

The Senior Citizens Club Chorus formed and met for its first practice. Lillian Rose volunteered as the organizer. The Chorus sang at area nursing homes beginning in December, 1974 and continued to meet during the school year through September, 2001. Acknowledgment is given to Chorus Director Rose Marie Barton and to Don Sattler, Lucy Heinz and Olga Gutmann for their assistance with coordination.

July, 1974

Senior Citizen Club members volunteered to assist with the parade, ice cream and flags at the first annual Brown Deer 4th of July Celebration.

The first annual Senior Citizens Club Picnic was held at Brown Deer Park. 77 club members attended.

September, 1974

Senior Citizens Club members first volunteered to assist with the annual Brown Deer Lions Club Festival.

The Brown Deer Health Department began scheduling blood pressure and other health screenings for club members.

October, 1974

Recreation Director Mike Lucas was hired and became involved in club administration.

The Senior Citizens Club announced its interest in recruiting an Arts and Crafts Instructor. Handcrafts were offered for many years under the leadership of club members. Acknowledgment is given to Rose Bilder for her assistance with instruction.

December, 1974

The first annual Senior Citizens Christmas Party was held at the Brown Deer Village Hall. The event was catered.

January, 1975

Cards were first scheduled on Thursday afternoons at the Brown Deer Village Hall.

May, 1975

The Steering Committee appointed the first Club Historian.

- November, 1983 Recreation Director Ginny Goode was hired and became involved in club administration.
- February, 1986 Senior Citizens Club activities moved to the new Brown Deer Senior Citizens Center in Algonquin School.
- Acknowledgment is given to Ellen Eggum, the first Senior Citizens Coordinator hired by the Recreation Department. She continues to work with the club and has assisted especially in Tour and Travel, in Senior Citizens Center supervision, and as the staff representative of the Recreation Department.
- December, 1986 The first annual New Year's Eve Party was held at the Senior Citizens Center.
- January, 1988 Joe Klucarich began his continued service as Club President. He followed Clemens Burkart, Irene Gauger, Frank Karpinski, Ed Hennig, Lee Metch, Glenn Thompson, Reuben Gauger, John Sorley, Lillian Rose, Ray Bridge, Jerry Abts, Morry Yanow, John Sorley, Elmer Leiter and Art Rose.
- October, 1989 The Senior Exercise program started on Tuesday and Thursday mornings during the school year in the Algonquin School Gym. Later the program was expanded to include Monday and Wednesday mornings for Moving to Music. Acknowledgment is given to Instructor Lenny Kass.
- May, 1993 The Senior Citizens Club celebrated its 20th Anniversary. The celebration was held at Algonquin School under the leadership of Ed Hennig, Marianne Karner, Lillian Rose and Loraine Williams.
- May, 1998 The Senior Citizens Club celebrated its Silver Anniversary (25th). The celebration was held at Algonquin School under the leadership of Joe Klucarich and the Advisory Committee.
- December, 2003 The Senior Citizens Club celebrated its Gala 30th Anniversary as part of the Annual Christmas Party. The celebration was held at the Sheraton Milwaukee North under the leadership of Don and Rosalie Uebelacker.
- January, 2002 The Brown Deer Senior Meal Program was begun at Algonquin School through coordination of the Milwaukee County Department on Aging, Village of Brown Deer and School District of Brown Deer.
- Acknowledgment is given to Roe Parker, Joe Klucarich, Les and Edith Hagensick, Ellen Eggum, Ginny Goode, Chad Hoier, Jane Peterson, Naomi Dassow, Russ Van Gompel, Barb Fleming, Bruce Connolly, Jim Mc Guigan, Nanette Stuibler, Mary Vaade, Meg Lemmen and Cathy Zeniecki for their assistance in development of the program. 200 individuals were registered for the program as of February, 2002.

- August, 2007 Moved to St. Paul's Lutheran Church when Algonquin School was torn down.
- January, 2012 Jo Klucarich retired as Club President after 25 years.
Richard Goehre became Club President.
- February, 2013 Under the direction of the Recreation Director, Chad Hoier, the club moved to the new Lois and Tom Dolan Community Center, along with the Brown Deer Senior Meal Program.
- February, 2018 At this time the Brown Deer Senior Citizens Club still has meetings on the first and third Wednesday of each month at the Lois and Tom Dolan Community Center. The club also has a Christmas party, St. Patrick's Day party and a summer picnic.