

# "25 YEARS ON PARK STREET"

(1978-2003)



*Chilton Public Library,*

Dedicated June 23, 1978

*Chilton, Wis.*

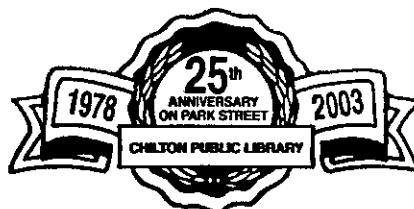
***Chilton Public Library***

***221 Park Street***

***Chilton, WI 53014***

**(920-849-4414)**

**[www.chilton.lib.wi.us](http://www.chilton.lib.wi.us)**



## **"25 YEARS ON PARK STREET 1978-2003"**

The Chilton Public Library was the first new public building the City of Chilton ever constructed. On June 23, 1978, the present site of the Chilton Public Library at 221 Park Street, was dedicated. The library was built by the city with monies added to the 100,000 donation of the late Gordon Wolff. Jim Toth also donated money to this project in honor of his wife, Ida. Interested businessmen, industries, service clubs, and citizens donated all the furnishings and many other materials. Don Parson built the library and Russell Miersch was the architect. Helen Wolff, widow of Gordon Wolff, cut the ribbon at the dedication.

***LIBRARY BOARD MEMBERS IN 1978 were:*** Adele Courtice, Charlotte Engler, Carl Siebert, James Skarda, Bernie Voigt, and Board President Mary Knauf.

***LIBRARY BOARD MEMBERS 2003 are:*** Jerry Criter, Betty Grittner, Kurt Hofmeister, Bob Knadle, Rod Ronk, Chuck Schuknecht, Jim Skarda, Sandra Sturm, and Board President Carl Siebert.

### **DIRECTORS OF CHILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY SINCE 1978**

Evelyn Casper till 1981 (1970-1981)  
Karen Juckem 1981-1992  
Kathy Garton 1993-Present

### **LIBRARY STAFF 1978**

Karen Juckem, Stella Nicolay, and June Ninnow

### **LIBRARY STAFF 2003**

Karla Johnsen, Mary Riesterer, Patti Sabo, Joyce Sell & Student Aide  
Julianna Kupsy

## **CHANGES IN THE LIBRARY SINCE 1978**

- 1978** Chilton Women's Club started presenting library story times for children every Wednesday morning.
- 1980** More shelving, furniture, and display cabinets were added to complete the furnishing of the new library building.  
Chilton Library Board President Mary Knauf was honored as Chilton's "Citizen of the Year."
- 1981** Library Director Evelyn Casper retired. Karen Juckem was named new Director.
- 1982** Library received a microfiche reader as part of the Wisconsin Union List of Serials project.  
Open house to introduce the library's new "Wisconsin Section."  
(May 23, 1982)  
Library hired its first student aide, who worked 8 hours/week, funded by CETA. (Sandra Miller, a junior at Chilton High School)
- 1983** Library celebrated its 50th anniversary.  
Expanded hours to be open over the noon hour on Mondays & Fridays.
- 1984** Library purchased its first Apple IIe microcomputer.
- 1985** Chilton and the other MCLS member libraries started converting their catalog records to machine-readable form, using Apple computers. Records were added to the WISCAT statewide database, which was issued in microfiche.
- 1987** Expanded hours to be open over the "supper hour" (5-6 p.m.) Monday through Friday.  
Library started circulating videos.
- 1988** Celebrated 10th anniversary in Park Street building.  
Remodeled staff work area, moved circulation desk, installed new

telephone system.

**1989** Library received its first grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to sponsor "Lets Talk About It" book discussions for adults.

**1990** Library received free CD-ROM equipment through a state grant, and started using the new CD-ROM version of WISCAT. Expanded the library's Literacy Collection through a Manitowoc-Calumet Library System LSCA grant.

**1992** Added hours on Mondays.

Updated lighting throughout the building.

Library Director Karen Juckem resigned to become Librarian at Taycheedah Correctional Institution. Kathy Garton was appointed Interim Director and became Library Director January 1, 1993.

**1993** Started automated circulation with Winnebago system.

**1996** Office area of the library was remodeled with new carpeting, more work space for staff, a new handicapable circulation desk, and enclosure of the ceiling area of the office.

Library added CD's.

**1999** On October 9th the Riverfront Addition was dedicated. The architect for this project was Birschbach & Associates, LTD. The primary funding for this addition came from the Evelyn Whitby-Farmer Trust, Bill Jr. and Gail Engler, and Mike and Kathy Engler (with donor advised funds that were part of the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region Inc.), Earl and Irma Lintner, and the City of Chilton. There were also many other monetary donations for this addition which are listed on plaques in the Riverfront Addition. The "Riverfront Retirees" coordinated the huge project of the removal and installation of new carpeting. The expansion increased the 7,248 square-foot building to 9,767 square feet. Other features in the new addition included the following: large basement storage area, expansion of heating and

air conditioning system, installation of a fire suppression sprinkler system and upgrading of fire and security system, and upgrading of fire and security system, new carpeting throughout the entire library, computer room with 10 workstations with Intel Pentium III Processors and 17" monitors connected to the Internet, a monitoring lab to be accessible for disable persons, an extended and improved Children's Section, new window treatments on all windows, extensive landscaping including new trees and shrubbery, nine stall parking lot including one designated "disabled", a large unisex lavatory conforming to accessibility standards, replacement of the tile floor in the main and meeting room entrances, panic bars attached to all doors oping to the outside, a third set of observation windows overlooking the Manitowoc River additional shelving provided to accommodate a growing book collection. The entire inside of the library repainted, reupholstering of chairs in sitting area, and additional outside lighting of the building.

**2000** Three murals have been added to the library that were done by Jean Harder and Janine Karls. There is a mural in the Childrens Section, Young Adult, and Wisconsin section.

**2002** Started Dynix automated system and the library joined the Manitowoc Calumet Shared System. We get delivery four days a week on library materials. All libraries in our system share their materials with the other libraries, and a patron's card in Chilton is valid at any of the other system libraries. There is now Internet access to our library catalog.  
Library added DVD's.

**2003** Due to a grant from the Chilton Community Foundation for hardware, and also a grant from Wal-Mart for software, we now have a children's computer with software that is not hooked up to the Internet.

Young Adult area was also redone.

**FRIENDS OF THE CHILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Earl Lintner organized the Friends of the Library in April of 1975, in November of 1993 the Friends of the Library was reorganized. The Friends have played a very active role since 1993. Every year they sponsor "Shopping With Santa" which gives an opportunity to do some Christmas shopping at a very reasonable price. The Friends have also sponsored many authors to come to the library. All three murals were paid for by the Friends. They meet the fourth Monday of the month in September, October, November, February, March, April, and May. New members are always welcome.

**LIBRARY HOURS 1978:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday 1:00 to 5:00, 6:00 to 7:30, Wednesday 10:00 to 5:00 & 6:00 to 7:30. Saturdays 9:00 to 12:00.

**LIBRARY HOURS 2003:** Monday thru Thursday 10:00 to 8:00, Fridays 10:00 to 6:00, Saturdays 10:00 to 1:00, and Sundays 12:00 to 3:00.

*Presentation Speech, Mrs. Gordon Wolff*

The dedication of the beautiful new library building should be a happy event for all of us. I know my late husband, Gordon Wolff, would be very pleased with it. His bequest left for that purpose was his idea of sharing with his community.

Libraries are educational and cultural centers which also give pleasure to people who use them. This building was not built to be used by one generation only but for future generations who I know will benefit by it.

I appreciated greatly the efforts, hard work, and financial help added by the Library Board, the Common Council, all Civic Organizations and many individuals who made this building a reality.

*Welcome Address*

This is a great day in the History of Chilton. This Library is the first new public building the City of Chilton ever constructed and I predict will be judged as the best looking Library in Calumet County.

Each and every citizen of Chilton had a part with their donation in making this building and furnishings possible.

The City Council and I congratulate the President and the Members of the Library Board for a job well done. Also, the Citizens of our Community, the Service Organizations, Business and Industry.

Last but not least, in memory of Mr. Gordon Wolff, whose generous contribution started the drive for this new Library.

*Henry C. Gillig, Mayor*

*A Message from the Library Board President*

This Library is dedicated to freedom of thought thru the pursuit of knowledge and the right to read. It is the end result of a Chilton Community united to achieve a goal for the common good. We, on the Library Board, pledge ourselves to make and to maintain a Library that will service all people, be responsive to their needs and requests, and be progressive on a continuum basis. Books are medicine for the soul and fuel for the mind. This is the reason and the purpose of a library.

*Mary A. Krauf*

DEDICATION PROGRAM

Friday, June 23, 1978

7:00 to 9:00 P.M.

Welcoming Remarks . . . . . Mayor Henry Gillig, Sr.

Presentation of The Gordon Wolff Memorial Plaque by Mrs. Gordon Wolff to Mayor Henry Gillig, Sr. for the Common Council and Mary A. Knaut and Evelyn Casper for the Library Board.

Acceptance Remarks . . . . . Mary A. Knaut, Evelyn Casper

Presentation of the Ida Toth Memorial Plaque by James Toth to Lyle Kurtz for the Common Council and Charlotte Engler and Adele Courtrice for the Library Board.

Acceptance Remarks . . . . . Lyle Kurtz, Charlotte Engler, Adele Courtrice

Presentation of the the Time Capsule from the Chilton Kiwanis Club by Carl Siebert to Eugene Redig for the Common Council and James Skarda and Bernadine Voigt for the Library Board.

Acceptance Remarks . . . . . Eugene Redig, James Skarda, Bernadine Voigt

Cutting of the Ribbon . . . . . Mrs. Gordon Wolff

Closing Remarks . . . . . Mayor Henry Gillig, Sr.

Open House, Public Inspection of the New Facilities

Refreshments served by the Chilton Woman's Club

7:30 to 9:00 P.M.

OPEN HOUSE — Sunday, June 25

2:00 to 5:00 P.M.

HISTORY OF THE CHILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The first lending library was started in 1915 by Ella Groetzinger and housed in the D. V. Jones Telephone and Candy Store. Members of the Chilton Woman's Club donated books and support services. The first benefactors were Valentine and Henry Rothchild, Tom Connell, Cap Fox, William Knaut and Jack Hall.

In October 1932, William Knaut offered the Woman's Club a part of the second floor of the Knaut & Tesch Store. The Woman's Club had sought State recognition, and the new library was officially registered with the State as the Chilton Public Library. The first members of the Library Board were Chairman Ella Groetzinger, William Knaut, Mary McHale and Judge George Goggins.

In 1936 the common council budgeted the first tax dollars in support of the City Library and moved the Library to the City Hall where it remained until today. The Woman's Club continued to actively support the Library and Ella Groetzinger, Ruby Schaefer and Frieda Landgraf continued to work in the Library for years and received only token remuneration.

The newly constructed Library designed by Russell E. Miersch to the exact design and specifications of the present Library Board was designed with expandability in mind. Should additional space be required the present meeting room would be converted to meet that need, thereby avoiding building an addition. The large window area facing the back of the Library was designed so that the beauty of the river could be enjoyed year around; and the lounge area serves a two-fold purpose — a space for reading and study, or just a special place for people to sit and dream of quiet things.

One hundred thousand dollars from the late Gordon Wolff, support from the Common Council who voted the additional monies needed, and the combined efforts of Chilton Civic Organizations, Chilton Industries and all the people who contributed with donations ranging from one dollar to five thousand dollars made this Library a reality instead of a dream. Their contributions paid for all furnishings and landscaping.

The history of the Chilton Public Library has been and is today the end result of a Chilton Community united to achieve a common good.

**LIBRARY BOARD**

President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

Mary A. Knauf  
Adele Courtice  
Evelyn Casper

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Carl Siebert, Bernadine Voigt, Charlotte Engler,  
James Skarda

**LIBRARY STAFF**

Head Librarian

Evelyn Casper

**ASSISTANT LIBRARIANS**

Stella Nicolay, June Ninnow, Karen Juckem

**LIBRARY HOURS**

Monday - Friday, 1:00 to 5:00 — 6:00 to 7:30  
Tuesday - Thursday, 1:00 to 5:00  
Wednesday - 10:00 to 5:00

**LABOR DAY UNTIL MEMORIAL DAY THE  
HOURS WILL BE INCREASED.**

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday Evening 6:00 to 7:30  
Saturday- 9:00 to 12:00

Telephone 414-849-9116

MY 6 '86

*Dedication Program*

*and*

*Open House*



*Chilton Public Library*

Friday, June 23, 1978

7:00 to 9:00 p.m.