



2023-2024

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The Big Walnut Key Club



Year two is in the books and we made it in the HS yearbook this year. You have all done another amazing job this year. As a newer club to Big Walnut High School we have done a great job getting involved in the community and schools. This newsletter includes some of the great things we have done this year and plan to continue next year as well. We hope you enjoy reading about all of your amazing accomplishments!

Fall 2023

Pumpkin Decorating



We kicked off our 1st meeting with pumpkin painting for the residents at The Inn at Walnut Trail here in Sunbury. With the changing of the season, we moved on to planning for our upcoming events.

HS Homecoming Festivities & Big Nut Strut



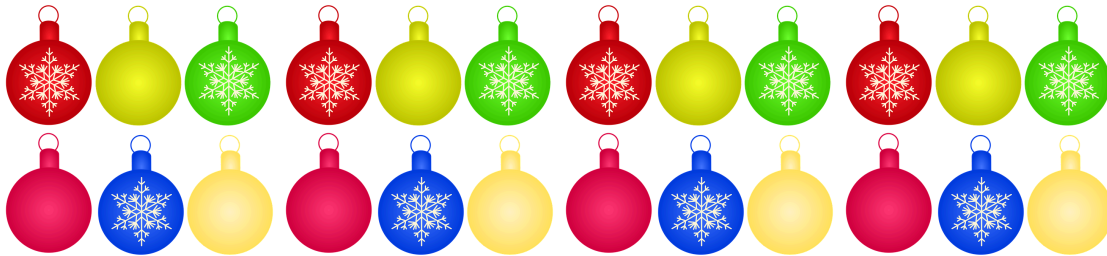
This year the HS did a festival instead of a parade. We joined in and set up a bounce house and passed out candy! FUN was had by all. We also volunteered at the Big Nut Strut. We helped with face painting and setting up water stations.

T-shirt design contest



We had our first ever T-shirt design contest among our club. Almost all club members designed a shirt and then we had a good old election to wean it down to the top design! It is fun to see the shirt design on the club members in the community!

Ornament Making on the Square



The club partnered with the Kiwanis Club of Sunbury with making ornaments at The Christmas on The Square, presented by Sunbury Chamber of Commerce. It was seasonably warm this year, everybody had a great time and a great start to the holiday season. Builders club joined in the fun and we all worked together to make it a great time.

Did you know?

Key Club is the largest and oldest student-led service organization in the world with over 260,000 members in 37 different countries. Key Clubbers around the world work to grow in leadership through service based projects in their local communities.

As members of Key Club we are committed to serving and giving back to the community as much as possible. We are always looking for new service opportunities to help grow in character, service, and leadership. We realize that youth serving not just our community of Sunbury but the rest of our country and world is important and with that in mind we dedicate our time for the betterment of those communities.

Spreading Holiday Cheer



The Key club members made Holiday cards for the residents of The Inn at Walnut Trail here in Sunbury. The members had a great time making the cards, and hope it helped to spread cheer and joy to all who received the card during the holiday season.

Giving Back for the Holidays



Key Club adopted two female teens through Big Walnut Friends Who Share. The club shopped and bought gifts for the girls. We wrapped and delivered the gifts to BWFS who then delivered them to the girls.

Fun Facts about Key Club

Key Club International is the oldest, largest, and most successful non-profit student-led organization for high school students. Our organization was the inspired vision of California State Commissioner of Schools Albert C. Olney, and vocational education teacher Frank C.

- Past Key Club members include- Bill Clinton, Elvis Presley, and Brad Pitt & Tom Cruise.

Guest Speaker



We had a great guest speakers this year. Olufemi Odiah, the Ohio District of Key Club International LT. Governor Division 11. He is a high school Senior at Centerburg HS and was a great inspiration for our group. Good luck to Olufemi and his continued success with Key Club and maybe into college with Circle K.

Buddy Reading at PRE



In September Key club met our new Prairie Run Elementary buddies and started the Buddy reading program for the second year. The Reading buddy program (pairs younger students up with older students to work on reading), is a great solution to accelerate the social skill set for both sets of kids. The goal is to help the younger students love to read with our club members. Younger children especially enjoy the one-to-one reading attention they receive from their older buddies. We met on Tuesday from 2:45-3:15, and began to read read read! This year we also incorporated games for the last 10 minutes. This has been a great experience for our club members. Hopefully this event continues through the years as our Key Club buddies really enjoyed reading to the PRE buddies.

More Fun Facts about Key Club

- There are close to 300,000 members!
- Every Key Club official color has a meaning- Blue stands for unwavering character, gold stands for service, and white stands for purity.
- Current Florida senator Bill Nelson is a past Key Club International President.
- As of 2010, Key Club has 30 member nations, and clubs exist on every continent except Antarctica.
- Originally, Key Club adopted the Kiwanis International motto “We Build” as it’s own. However, the motto was changed in 1978 to “Caring - Our Way of Life,” because it was thought that this motto better reflected the passion the Key Clubbers have for serving the world.

Around the community



One of our ways to give back to our community is helping to weed the beautiful flower beds at the Inn at Walnut trails. They called and needed help, we were happy to pitch in!

Plant Sale



We did a small plant sale this year to help our administration and service budgets. Thanks to Sambuca's for this great collaboration on our fundraiser for Key club. Next we might change to a Gift card sale with Sambucas.

Earth Day Celebration



The Earth Day Celebration is our biggest service project of the year! We spent many months planning this event and it turned out great again.! The weather was good and all of our projects went off without a hitch. The face painting station was fun and our face painters did a great job. We also had a pot decorating station for all the little artists out there to share their creativity. The club members passed out hotdogs to anyone who wanted to enjoy a little treat. This event was such a fun way to celebrate Earth day and the Key Club is looking forward to next year's Earth Day Celebration!

The Inn at Walnut trails



We collaborated with a local retirement community and had a wonderful time. We painted birdhouses and flower pots. We passed out treats and had a great time connecting with the residents. They would like to schedule more events with our club next year. Fantastic!

Food drive



We had a small spring food drive for the BWFS. .Our goal for next year is to make it a little larger. The club has ideas to make it a school wide event. Any little bit helps!

Board Elections



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Key Club is a self-governing, student-led organization. Each year, Key Club members elect their student officers for the club. Key Club members receive guidance and support from adult volunteers, including Kiwanis advisors, faculty advisors and district administrators. The organization is funded by nominal dues paid by each member.

The 2024-2025 elected board members are-

President- Parker Holmes (Class of 2026),

Vice President- Addison Oppliger (Class of 2026),

Treasurer- AryanVyan (Class of 2025),

Secretary-Sam Stuart (Class of 2025).

To be elected in the fall-Freshman Class Director- , Sophomore Class Director- , Junior Class Director-, Senior Class Director-

Congratulations to these new members!

We Learn Through Action

High school student members of Key Club perform acts of service in their communities, such as cleaning up parks, collecting clothing and organizing food drives. They also learn leadership skills by running meetings, planning projects and holding elected leadership positions at the club, district and international levels.

Why is volunteering important

Volunteer work is an excellent way to meet new people and expand your social network. Volunteering provides a much-needed opportunity for human connection – especially in an age of busy schedules.

Final Thoughts

Our goal this year for the club was to help the members develop **strong leadership skills** with each member having the opportunity to step up and take part in service projects, social activities, and club functions. I feel like we have done this! Of course there is always room for improvement, but overall this has been a great year with BWHS Key Club! Thank you to all of our outstanding members for an amazing year!

Angie Holmes & Jim Janosik- Key Club Advisors

Follow us on Instagram- [Keyclubbwhs](#)



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