



THE BELLEFONTAINE BELLE SOCIETY, INC.

2025 IN REVIEW

1. Landscaping and Beautification. Work continued in 2025 to improve the landscaping in the community:
 - a. Flowers were added to the pots at the post office, lodge hall, old store, and Bellefontaine Methodist Church.
 - b. A new planter was added under the North Union Cemetery Sign on Highway 9. Lantana was planted at the North Union Cemetery sign at the cemetery.
 - c. Flowers/shrubs/bulbs have been planted and/or maintained at the intersection of Highways 404 and 9 in Bellefontaine, under the tree near the entrance to the Lodge Hall/Fellowship Baptist Church, and at Dumas Chapel.
 - d. Bellefontaine was once again beautifully decorated for Christmas.
 - e. Trash is being picked up regularly by committee members to keep Bellefontaine beautiful. Keep Mississippi Beautiful donated car trash bags and information about fighting litter.
 - f. A number of members assisted North Union Cemetery with its cleanup day.
2. Lodge Hall.
 - a. A new septic tank was installed and work was done on water lines.
 - b. The electrical box was upgraded and new wiring was installed on part of the first floor.
 - c. A used stove was donated, so there is now a functioning stove in the Lodge Hall.
 - d. A new coffee pot and other kitchen items were donated.
 - e. The front door and trim was painted.
 - f. An exterior lighted Christmas wreath was donated.
 - g. The floor/foundation for a shed has been built and placed next to Lodge Hall. The shed will be used for storage of extra chairs and other items.
 - h. Additional photos/clippings, quilts, books, and other historical items have been donated.
 - i. A mantle was added to the first floor as a focal point.
 - j. More chair covers and seasonal decoration items were donated.
 - k. Volunteers have cleaned the Lodge Hall on multiple occasions and have worked to showcase the historical items.
3. Nail Property.
 - a. The Nail family generously donated the Nail house and 2 acres to be used as a park for the community.

- b. There have been several work days at the property. Lots of volunteers have cut trees, pruned bushes, cleaned up the property, and kept it mowed.
 - c. A beautiful wooden bridge has been built connecting the two parcels of the Nail property.
 - d. Work was done to prepare the site for the new Bellefontaine sign.
 - e. Muscadines were picked from the property and used to make jelly which was sold at Walthall Trade Day.
 - f. Trees are being identified with metal name plates.
 - g. A beautiful bench was donated in memory of Scotti Wilson Doler.
4. Sign. Work has moved forward to build a new sign for Bellefontaine at the front of the Nail Property facing the intersection of Highways 9 and 404.
5. Fundraising and Special Events.
- a. Membership and Donations. A number of people have become members and paid a \$25 membership fee. There have been other donations (both monetary and in-kind).
 - b. Fish Fry. A fish fry fundraiser was held in April at the Lodge Hall.
 - c. Farmers Appreciation Breakfast. A Farmers' Appreciation Breakfast was held in May at the Lodge Hall.
 - d. Genealogy Workshop. The Bellefontaine Belle held a well-attended Genealogy Workshop at the Lodge Hall with the DAR in September.
 - e. Ice Cream Social. The Second Annual Ice Cream Social at the Lodge Hall with homemade ice cream, food, and entertainment was a big success in October.
 - f. Walthall Trade Day. Members contributed baked and canned goods and crafts for sale at the Walthall Trade Day in October.
 - g. Open Houses. There was an open house at the Lodge Hall on Saturday May 17 (the day before the North Union Cemetery Memorial). In addition, there was a lovely Christmas open house on Saturday, December 6 with great attendance.
 - h. Keep Mississippi Beautiful Grant. Keep Mississippi Beautiful awarded a \$2,000 matching grant to purchase outdoor trash cans and help with landscaping.
6. History. Through presentations and sharing of information, we have learned more about the history of the area. Several items have been donated which are on display at the Lodge Hall.
7. Publicity. Bellefontaine has made the news on several occasions for the good things happening in the community.
8. Bringing the Community Together. The activities and meetings of The Bellefontaine Belle continue to bring the community together.
9. Facebook and Website. There number of followers of the Bellefontaine Belle Facebook page has grown to in excess of 1,200. Users are also accessing the website.