

# Blommer

## TIMELINE



**1851**

Conrad Blommer is born, and by 1877 is an established Milwaukee confectioner. He trained at Ziegler Candy Company.

**1902**

Oscar Boldemann starts Boldemann Chocolate in San Francisco. It is later sold to Blommer Chocolate.



**1926**

Henry Blommer graduates from Georgetown University.



**1927**

After working at his family's ice cream business, William Blommer buys into Milwaukee's Ambrosia Chocolate and later becomes Vice President.

**1939**

Henry Blommer, along with his two brothers, Al and Bernard, found Blommer Chocolate in Chicago.



ECUADOR COCOA BEAN

GROWN ON CACAO TREES OF ECUADOR  
IMPORTED AND USED BY  
**BISHOP & COMPANY**  
LOS ANGELES, U. S. A.  
Making BISHOP SIERRA CHOCOLATE

**1948**

Blommer purchases Bishop Chocolate in Los Angeles.

**1878**

Conrad's son, William Blommer is born.



**1904**

Henry Blommer is born to William and Marie Blommer.



**1909**

Conrad Blommer and his wife, Frances, open Blommer Ice Cream. It's situated at Fifteenth Street and W. North Avenue, the site of an old Blommer farm, the first residence of the family when it settled in Milwaukee County.

**1929**

Conrad forms the conglomerate Wisconsin Creameries, which is later sold to National Dairy.

**1932**

Conrad Blommer, founder of Blommer Ice Cream, dies in Fairy Chasm, Wisconsin at age 80.



**1940**

Blommer makes their first delivery of liquid chocolate in a tanker truck. Blommer introduces chocolate pricing based on New York Cocoa Exchange quotes.



**1951**

Blommer purchases Boldemann Chocolate in San Francisco.

**1956**

Henry Blommer is appointed cocoa advisor in Nigeria.





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**1959-1964**

Henry Blommer serves on the National Confectioners Association board as a liaison between the industry organizations Chocolate Manufacturer Association and the NCA.



**1972**

Joe Blommer starts working at Blommer Chocolate in Chicago.



**1957**

After a tour of duty with the U.S. Navy, Hank Blommer begins working full-time at Blommer Chocolate.

**1972**

Henry is elected Chairman of NCA cocoa advisory board.



**1980**

Joe Blommer, along with Marty Kruger, breaks ground at Blommer's East Greenville, Pennsylvania factory. That same year, Henry is elected Chairman of CMA and receives the NCA Distinguished Service Award.

**1987**

Al Blommer dies (1909-1987).



**1991**

Peter Blommer, grandson of Henry Blommer, begins work at the Union City Blommer Chocolate plant.

**1992**

Henry Blommer dies at 88. At the same time Cargill Corporation attempts a takeover of Blommer Chocolate Company.



**1961**

Henry Blommer co-chairs the 78<sup>th</sup> Annual National Confectioners Association Convention in Chicago.



**1965**

Bernard Blommer dies (1905-1965).

**1970**

With Hank Blommer at the helm, Blommer Chocolate opens a plant in Union City, California.



**1978**

Blommer donates funds to the Reiss Science Library building at Georgetown University.

**1983**

Peter Drake, grandson of Henry Blommer, begins working for Blommer Chocolate in Chicago.



**1986**

Candy Industry magazine's prestigious Kettle Award goes to a supplier for the first time. Henry Blommer accepts the honor.

**1987**

Marlene Stauffer, now the Director of Quality Assurance & New Product Development at Blommer wins PMCA Candy Queen Title.



**1993**

Rick Blommer, grandson of Henry Blommer, begins working for Blommer Chocolate in Chicago.

**1994**

After a successful buyback battle, Blommer family once again completely owns Blommer Chocolate.



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**1995**

Blommer processes 100,000 metric tons of cocoa beans.

**1996**

Tori Blommer-O'Malley, granddaughter of Henry Blommer, begins working for Blommer Chocolate in Union City, at the same plant her father started.



**1998**

Literally raising the bar, Blommer introduces its premium collection Signature Line Chocolate and Specialty Cocos.

**2000**

Blommer joins with six other companies to develop the World Cocoa Foundation.

**2002**

Dick Funk, a longtime Blommer salesman, wins the Retail Confectioners Association's Henry J. Bornhofft Award for his contributions to the confectionery industry.



**2006**

The Blommer Chocolate Company announces its purchase of World's Finest Chocolate plant in Ontario, Canada.

**2007**

With the success of a farm program in Indonesia, Blommer announces the expansion of the company's sustainable farming initiatives program in West Africa.



**2008**

Hank Blommer is awarded the Western Candy Member of the Year.



**1995**

Steve Blommer, grandson of Henry, starts working for Blommer Chocolate in East Greenville, Pennsylvania.

**1997**

Blommer produces 275 million pounds of chocolate products, and processes 5% of world's cocoa beans.



**2001**

Blommer donates \$250,000 for the Pennsylvania State Food Science Building while breaking ground on a new 90,000-square-foot warehouse, in Pennsylvania. Henry Blommer is posthumously awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award from the NCA. Marlene Stauffer wins the PMCA Marie Kelso Award.

**2003**

Blommer employees number 450, and sales reach a half billion dollars. Bill Dyer, Vice President of Technical Sales and Services, wins the PMCA Marie Kelso award.



**2007**

With the success of an extensive farmer training program in Indonesia, the World Cocoa Foundation elects Karl "Kip" Walk as chairman. He is Director of Cocoa Department for Blommer Chocolate Company.

**2008**

With the addition of new roasters in all three facilities, Blommer officially grinds 50% of all U.S. cocoa imports.



**2009**

Blommer Chocolate Company turns 70.