



Foundation's Voice

Ripley County
Community Foundation

Volume I, Issue I
January 2010

THANK YOU!!!!!!

In a day when generosity seems fleeting, the Ripley County Community Foundation would like to thank the following individuals and businesses who gave both money and services during the "Give BackForever" campaign to raise operating funds for the Foundation:

Ron & Sharon Knueven—Sunman *Fraley Motors—Milan*
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Schneider/Schneider Scrap Metal—Osgood
Versailles Lions *Stratton-Karsteter Funeral Home—Versailles*
MainSource Insurance - Osgood *Gilpin's—Versailles*
William T. Van Hook—Batesville *Anonymous—Osgood*
Town of Sunman *Moore's Computer Services—Milan*
Bill & Vicki Wilson *Steve & Linda Chandler—Cross Plains*
Roseanne & Charles Schurick *Edwin & Jane Deiwert*
Ripley Publishing Co.—Versailles Republican and Osgood Journal
Neal Funeral Home—Osgood *Realty Exchange—Versailles*
Shelby Crop Insurance—Osgood *Cheryll & Paul Obendorf*
Jim & Sally Morris *Champion Floor & Carpet Care—Osgood*
Enhanced Telecommunications Co.—Batesville & Sunman
Clarence "Bud" McGowan—Batesville *Versailles Super Valu*
Woolum Real Estate—Versailles *Anonymous—Sunman*
Duke & Cathy Hamm—Batesville *Sunman Life Squad*
Meisberger & Assoc.—Versailles *Mark & Dot Collier—Versailles*
Ohio Rod Products - Versailles *Dr. Chris Brown—Versailles*
Phil & Janet Mohr—Osgood *Schmidt's Bakery—Batesville*
Hummel-Steinmetz—Milan *Tom & Brenda Wetzler—Osgood*
Mr. Thomas Hamm—Spiceland *Janet Smith—Batesville*
Deb Locke—Batesville *Milan Lions Club* *Town of Osgood*

Rising Sun Regional Foundation
John A Hillenbrand Foundation Inc.

*We also wish to thank those who donated to other
Ripley County Community Foundation endowment funds.*

Board Members

Deborah Locke, Batesville—
Board President
Duke Hamm, Batesville -
Vice President
Jenny Miles, Sunman -
Treasurer
Brenda Wetzler, Osgood—
Secretary
Linda Chandler, Cross Plains
Mark Collier, Versailles
Jennifer Darnold, Versailles
George Junker II, Batesville
Mike Kruse, Batesville
Bud McGowan, Batesville
Janet Moore, Milan

Staff

Sally Morris, Executive Director
Jane Deiwert, Program Officer
Cheryll Obendorf,
EcO15 Director
Vicky Wilson, Bookkeeper
Lin Phaneuf, Admin. Assistant
John Kellerman II—Attorney

**April 1—1st Small Grant
Cycle Apps due**

WOMEN'S FUND
GRANT APPS DUE
April 16 by 4:00 pm

Women's Luncheon
April 28 11:30—1:30
Hillcrest Country Club

**June 1—2nd Small Grant
Cycle Apps due**

2009 Granting



(From left) Board President, Deb Locke with representatives of local food pantries: Rev. Harris Long, Milan; Bill Warren, County-wide; Sandra Wagner, Sunman; Janet Moore, Osgood and Rev. Robin Owen, Batesville.

The ripple effect of the bad economy was felt in Ripley County when the Ripley County Community Foundation announced that there would be no small (\$500 and under) grants for 2009 and money available for the large grant cycle would also be greatly reduced.

The Board of Directors voted to give priority to grants that would relieve human suffering for the 2009 grant cycle. Under that direction, the Grants Committee recommended and the Board approved the following grants:

Delaware Community Volunteer Fire Department—EMS storage boxes and equipment—\$2,500
Morris Firemen's Association—fire hose—\$2,496

Napoleon Volunteer Fire Company—radios, pagers and chargers—\$2,350

Oldenburg Academy—Easter and Thanksgiving dinners prepared by students for residents of Safe Passage—\$600 (Kroger gift cards)

Rural Alliance for the Arts—tickets to "Christmas Carol" for unemployed families- \$2,500

Ripley County Angels of Giving—Support for needy at Christmas—\$2,500

Ripley County Red Cross—aid for disaster victims of Ripley County

South Ripley Jr./Sr. High School—for monitoring progress—\$400

Sunman Food Pantry—food for the needy—\$2,500 (Kroger gift cards)

YMCA Learning Center—shade for playground for toddlers—\$2,500

The Board recommended the following PROACTIVE grants:

Safe Passage—operating support—\$1,060

Batesville Food Pantry, County-wide Free Food Store (Versailles), Milan Food Pantry, Fishes and Loaves Food Pantry (Osgood) - \$1,000 each in Kroger gift cards.

2010 Granting

At its January meeting the Board of Directors voted to set aside money for small grants again in 2010. The cap for small grants will be \$500 and applications are due on April 1, July 1, September 1 and December 1.

The large grant cycle will remain in the fall with the Intent to Apply to be submitted by August 13 and the grant application to be sub-

mitted by September 10.

In addition to above mentioned grants, the Foundation will also be setting aside money for sponsorships and other emergency requests that may come up during the year.

Grants will NOT be accepted from organizations that have received grants in the past but have not spent the grant money.

A satisfactory grant report must be filed and approved by the Foundation before an organization may apply in another grant cycle (no matter the size of grant: small or large).

The grant application process and necessary forms will be available on the Ripley County Community Foundation website (www.rccfonline.org) shortly.

Board Changes in 2010

Changes to the Board of Directors came with the change of the year. With sadness we said good-bye to Directors Bill Van Hook and Ron Kneeven. Both gentlemen have served the Foundation well.

Mr. Van Hook is a former Board President and from his first year on the Board in 2004 he has worked diligently in behalf of RCCF. He and his late wife, Marilyn started three endowment funds within the Foundation: the Daryl Lea Van Hook Memorial Scholarship, the Margaret Mary Community Hospital Hospice Fund and the Marilyn M. and William T. Van Hook Operating Endowment. Mr. Van Hook never missed a Board

Meeting during his term and he served on many committees as well as serving as President. Bill continues to serve on the Grants Committee and will remain active with RCCF into the future.

Ron Kneeven was initially on the Board of Directors from 1998, when the Ripley County Community Foundation disaffiliated from the Madison-Jefferson Community Foundation and became its own entity. After his term ended he took a year off and in 2004 came back onto the Board and served until 2009. Ron has served as the Treasurer of the Foundation and chair and co-chair of the Finance Committee. He will continue to serve on the Finance Committee. The Board is very pleased to wel-

come Mike Kruse of Batesville and Linda Chandler of Cross Plains/Versailles as new Directors. Mr. Kruse has served on both the Scholarship and Grants committees in the past so is well informed about the Foundation.

Linda is a past Director and has served on many committees including Grants, Women's Luncheon, Asset Development, Gala and Marketing/PR. She has a great love of the Foundation and has been generous in the coverage of RCCF's events in the *Versailles Republican* and the *Osgood Journal*, both of which she is publisher.

The Board and Staff wish to thank these fine folks for the time given to the Foundation. It is much appreciated.



Ron Kneeven



Bill Van Hook



Linda Chandler



Mike Kruse



2010 Women's Luncheon

Save the date!
The Women in Philanthropy Luncheon for 2010 will be April 28 at the Hillcrest Country Club from 11:30 to 1:30.

Tickets will be \$50 with \$25 of the ticket price going directly into the Women's Fund.
Look for your invita-

tion in the mail shortly. If you don't receive one, please call our offices and we will mail one to you right away. We look forward to seeing you there.



Sally Morris presents \$1000 check to Connie DeBurger, Executive Director, of Family Connections, 2009 Women's Grant recipient.

Wilkie and James Lemon Scholarship

At the February Board Meeting, the Directors voted to administer the Wilkie S. and James W. Lemon Scholarship, which in the past has been through the Friendship State Bank.

This \$500 scholarship will be awarded to one senior from each of the seven high schools within the Southeastern Indiana area served by Friendship State Bank, who demonstrates a commitment and involvement in community service.

The applicant should possess a 2.5 or better cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale and be planning to attend an accredited college, university or technical school to be considered.

He or she should also possess a commitment to community service and describe this commitment in a 250-word or less essay.

Applications and Scholarship Activities Chart are available

online at rccfonline.org under "2010 Scholarship Brochure".

Applications with all the attachments (essay and letter of recommendation) for this scholarship must be received by RCCF no later than April 1.

If you have any questions, please call the Foundation at 933-1098.

Volunteers

Maya Angelou once said, "I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands. You need to be able to throw something back!"

The Ripley County Community Foundation, like many other non-profit organizations, depends on volunteers for many things. The Board of Directors is made up of volunteers, as are the many committees that keep the Foundation running. Committee members are often selected from the folks

who have volunteered in the office; and Board members are preferably selected from committee members.

As the Directors end their terms on the Board, they often go back to volunteering for the Foundation in various capacities.

If you or your organization would like to volunteer with the Ripley County Community Foundation, we have many opportunities for using your time and

talents. We can usually work around your time schedule. Please go to the website to download a volunteer application, (it can be found under "Grants") or call the RCCF of office at 933-1098 and we will mail you an application.



WE LOVE OUR VOLUNTEERS

Economy and the Foundation

After the difficulties of 2008, the RCCF investment portfolio recovered well in 2009. For the year ending 12/31/09 the foundation's portfolio generated a return of 19.57%. While we have not fully recovered from the -27.9% loss in 2008, our 2009 performance did go a long way to recovery.

While we are encouraged with the 2009 performance, we recognize the broad-based nature of

the economic downturn. The Foundation continues to work with its financial consultants, Hilliard Lyons, to evaluate and adjust our asset allocations to best meet our investment objectives in this continuing in this continuing difficult market.

The Foundation believes it is important to continue to provide distributions to our fund holders. Accordingly, RCCF will make a 2% distribution in 2010.

The Foundation's Board of Directors has also approved an additional amount from the Foundation's granting funds that is included in the 2010 distribution.

The distribution amount from each fund was calculated based upon the average of the fund's year-end account balance from each of the last five years. This "rolling average" calculation method will help boost the distribution amount. More importantly, in future years it will help



Tyler Hensley (red shirt) and Gerald Hardesty (both Lilly Scholars) lend a hand while home on Christmas break.

smooth the annual distribution amounts so that the annual distribution becomes more predictable.

Like everyone who relies on good performances by the stock market, we hope 2010 will be better!

Contact us online:
rccfonline.org

Giving Back ... Forever

Two young men were passing through the cemetery on their way home from football practice. The one asked the other, "Who do you suppose George Miller was?" His friend responded, "Don't know but he must have been a big wig around here—look at the size of that tombstone."

A little closer to home the younger boy said, "Hey, did you know my sister got the Allen James Memorial Scholarship?"

"That's great! Who's Allen James? Or should I ask, who WAS Allen James?" the other boy asked.

"Mr. James used to teach music at the local high school—about a million years ago, I guess. His

family started a scholarship for him through the Community Foundation and every year 1 or 2 kids get help paying for their college—that is if they want to study music."

"Music isn't my thing, but next year I'm definitely applying for one of the scholar /athlete scholarships from the Foundation. College is expensive and I need all the help I can get!"

Each year the Ripley County Community Foundation awards many scholarships to students in the county.

In 2009 there were two new scholarships added. The Sandra Michelle Riggle Scholarship

benefits a female graduate of South Ripley High School who wishes to study education and/or a science-related field. The Litzinger family started a scholarship in memory of their son, Zachary for graduates of Batesville High School who have been participants in FFA and active in either in high school, middle school or youth sports.

These new scholarships are added to the 29 already endowed with Ripley County Community Foundation. For information see the Scholarship Brochure on our website, contact your counselor at school or the Foundation at 812-933-1098.



EcO15 Update

The success of any initiative lies in the strength of its members. We are blessed to have a strong team to support our efforts. They are: Ross Brewer, Carla Enzinger, Rick Fledderman, Duke Hamm, Deb Locke, Bill Narwold, Gary Norman, Jason Riley, Fred Sagester, Katherine Taul, Sally Morris and Bill Van Hook.

Project Lead the Way is expanding to the Southeastern Career Center in the 2010-2011 school year. SCC will offer Computer Integrated Manufacturing to students who have completed the core PLTW classes.

EcO15 and IU-Bloomington are again collaborating on "Math Matters"- a basic Project Based Learning Teacher Workshop. This 2-week workshop for math teachers

to help them learn how to implement PBL in their classrooms. Teachers from the region are partnering with a member of the business community to develop "real world" projects for their students. Several Ripley County teachers plan to participate.

EcO15 funds have provided some unique opportunities for elementary, middle and high school students: Lego Mindstorms for students at Milan Elementary and Batesville Middle Schools; Interactive classroom technology for South Ripley Elementary School and Batesville Middle School; PLTW classroom renovations at all high schools; Programmable Logic Controls (PLC) trainers and PLTW classroom preparation at Southeastern Career Center.

by Cheryll Obendorf

Jac-Cen-Del participated in a regional high school Rube Goldberg Machine Contest at Purdue University in West Lafayette. Although the team did not place, they had a great time participating with other high schools in the state.

In the healthcare section of EcO15, the grant is funding high fidelity stimulators to improve the education of healthcare professionals in the area. Through the expanded use of simulators, institutions and hospitals expect to increase the number of trained professionals.

In hospitality/tourism, EcO15 is providing a grant to IU to conduct a region-wide tourism survey. To learn more go www.eco15.org.

As part of his Lilly Endowment Scholarship, Tyler Giesting, student at DePauw University, was able to study in Austria. He's shown here in front of the Museum of Modern Art in Salzburg.

