Russell and Harriette Geisinger - Remembering Ashland

Sometimes your heart resides where your memories are the fondest. Such was the case with Russell and Harriette Geisinger and their time spent in Ashland.

Russell Geisinger was a 1944 graduate of Ashland High School. He would later receive his undergrad degree from Baldwin-Wallace College and attend Notre Dame University’s V-12 program as a member of the United States Navy.

Mr. Geisinger began his professional career at the F. E. Myers & Bros. Company in the late 1940’s, where he would eventually become Vice President of Finance and Administration. In 1968, he was one of only 160 business executives to participate in the Advance Management Program at Harvard Business School. Joining the Greer Steel Company in 1973, he served as President until his retirement in 1988.

During his time in Ashland, Mr. Geisinger served on several area governing boards, including those of Custom Hoists in Hayesville, First National Bank of Ashland, Samaritan Hospital and, importantly, was a past president of the Ashland YMCA board of trustees.

Russell’swife, Harriette, a Kent State University alumnus, taught Physical Education at Ashland High School and was a faculty member at (then) Ashland College for 10 years. While there, she was instrumental in creating the women’s intercollegiate volleyball and basketball programs. Always a sports enthusiast, Harriette competed in many golf and tennis tournaments.

Although the Geisingers have left this present life, with Russell passing away in 2010 and Harriette in January of 2016, their legacy continues in Ashland, thanks to prearranged charitable giving that was a part of their estate plan.

Their son, Stephen, recounted recently to ACCF’s executive director, the wonderful life that their family enjoyed while they resided in Ashland, with particular fondness for the Ashland YMCA and the Public Library.

That fondness was evident in the remarkable gift of over $622,000 that was bequeathed to the Ashland YMCA, with the stipulation that it be held in endowment at the Ashland County Community Foundation for the long-term support of this organization about which the Geisingers cared so much.

Additionally, $50,000 was provided to ACCF, as an unrestricted gift. Once it was learned of the Geisingers’ love of the Ashland Public Library, ACCF’s board of trustees elected to create a new endowment fund for the library, in the amount of $10,000.

With the remaining $40,000, a new “Russell and Harriette Geisinger Community Grants Fund” was established at ACCF, whereby other non-profit agencies will benefit from the annual distribution from this fund. This will allow the Geisinger name to be carried forward, permanently, directing charitable funding where it’s needed most in Ashland County.
Millions
$10
$0
$2
$4
$6
$8
$10
B
Dr. Lucille G. Ford,
______________________________________________________________________
Officers
Trustees
Staff
Trustees Emeritus
ACCF Mission
_________________________________________________________________________________________
OARD
community, providing and
for specific charities.

$9,911,231..!
No, that’s not the most recent Powerball or Mega Millions payout figure, but it is part of a winning formula, of which the Ashland County Community Foundation is proud to be a part.

The most optimistic of us could have hardly imagined, 21 years ago, from humble beginnings, that ACCF would have by now re-invested over $9.9 million into our beloved Ashland County, helping to fill the “buckets of need” in areas of education, compassion, economic development and community improvement.

In our first official grants cycle, in our second year of operation, we quite literally “passed the hat” among ACCF trustees and a handful of devoted donors to distribute $12,765 in grants. In the just completed 2015-2016 fiscal year alone, grants totaled $1,616,153!

As we look to the future, we’re excited about the prospects of exponential growth in these numbers and the resulting impact that can be made in Ashland County.

Our donor base has grown to over 6,400 individuals. If you do that math in Ashland County, ACCF has engaged nearly 1 in 6 adults; a remarkable feat for a community foundation in any size county, anywhere.

As an anchor institution in our community, we also recognize that, as additional resources become available, a weightier responsibility is placed upon the leadership of ACCF to manage outcomes, and so we’re ready for the challenge.

Our newest addition to our Board of Trustees, Tom Zupan, has extensive experience in real estate investing and brings a wealth of business expertise.

Two additional trustees, Anne Cowen and Jay Myers, have returned to our ranks, having each served a prior eight-year term and a stint as past Board Chair. Their passion for our mission has been evident over the years and is inspiring to us all.

Models of inspiration also exist outside Ashland County, as we contemplate how ACCF might become involved in assisting with strategic initiatives to benefit our communities. We look for visioning and planning examples that might encourage and stimulate a different type of thinking about our future.

Excitement on the horizon; stay tuned...and, as always, thank you so much for supporting ACCF and its mission!

GIVEN BACK

ACCF currently administers over 350 individual endowment funds, each with its own story. The Geisinger family chose to write their storyline well before the final page was turned, and while some of us were surprised by these resulting gifts from the heart, Russell and Harriette knew, well in advance, through careful planning, how their story would end.

We encourage you to begin writing your life’s story and, if it includes a charitable component, ACCF is happy to assist.

Photo, Left-to-Right: William Rutger, Ashland Public Library; Molly Riley, Ashland YMCA and Jim Cutright, ACCF, gratefully acknowledge the Geisinger endowment gifts. (Photo courtesy—Ashland T-G)

www.accommunityfoundation.org
The Ashland County Community Foundation (ACCF) held its 21st annual meeting on July 25, 2016. The group recognized the 6,468 donors whose generosity has made possible the distribution of $9,911,231 to the community by way of grants, scholarships and donor fund distributions. Invested assets of the organization total more than $31,000,000.

Retiring trustees Keith Boales and Susan Shafer were recognized at the meeting and will be honored at ACCF’s Annual Donor Appreciation Reception, to be held November 9, 2016.

Boales has served on the Development and Nominating Committees and served as chair of the Grants Review and Mini-Grants Committees. Shafer served on the Marketing/Advertising Committee and served as chair of the Advancement Committee. She is also an Emeritus Women’s Fund Steering Committee member and GEM.

Anne Cowen, Jay Myers and Thomas Zupan were elected to the ACCF Board of Trustees for four-year terms beginning July 2016. Cowen, is a registered dietician and the Safety and Wellness Coordinator at Cowen Truck Line. She will serve on the Community Grants Review, Scholarship and Strategic Grants Committees. Myers, Vice President of Simonson Construction Services, will serve on the Community Grants Review and Hess Loan Committees. Zupan, a real estate investor, will serve on the Finance Committee.

The following officers were elected for 2016-2017: Dr. Andrew Stein, Chair; Kenneth Milligan, Vice Chair; Patricia Byerly, Treasurer; Michael Huber, Secretary; and Anne Cowen, Past Chair; Lucille G. Ford, President Emerita; James Cutright, Executive Director/CEO; Kristin Aspin, Vice President – Operations; Ann Guthrie, Recording Secretary. Irwin Financial Associates was elected as auditor for the 2016-2017 year.

**Women’s Fund**

**Mother’s Day Cards**

Four hundred eighteen women were honored and remembered this past Mother’s Day with gifts to the Women’s Fund totaling more than $15,000. Since providing this Mother’s Day opportunity to honor and remember special women, over 2,300 Mother’s Day cards have been mailed with more than $105,000 raised to support women and children in Ashland County via grants to non-profit organizations from The Women’s Fund.

**Annual Gathering**

The Women’s Fund Annual Gathering will be held Tuesday, September 13th from 7:00 - 8:30 pm at Ashland University. This will be a dessert social to include presentation of the Lucille G. Ford “Freedom from Selfishness” Award and announcement of the 2016 grant recipients. Should you care to attend, please contact the Foundation office. We’d love for you to join us.

**Grants Impact**

Eight Women’s Fund Grants were awarded totaling $15,355.

*The mission of the Women’s Fund is to create a permanent legacy that enhances the lives of Ashland County women.*

**Grant Opportunities**

**Teacher Mini-Grants**

Competitive grants awarded to teachers grades K-12 in Ashland County accredited public and private schools.

Application deadline: September 8

**Community Grants**

Competitive grants awarded to 501(c)(3) and other qualifying charitable organizations contributing to the betterment of our community.

Application deadline: September 15

**IMPACT Youth Grants**

Grants awarded to 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations, schools and governmental agencies to benefit youth.

Application deadline: February 15

Apply online at [www.accommunityfoundation.org](http://www.accommunityfoundation.org)
~INVESTING IN TOMORROW’S LEADERS~

183 SCHOLARSHIPS were recently awarded to students across Ashland County. Recipients of the scholarships awarded in 2016 for the first time are pictured below.
ASHLAND COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
300 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio 44805
419-281-4733, Fax: 419-289-5540, Email: accf@accommunityfoundation.org, www.accommunityfoundation.org
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30 am – 5:00 pm

PLEDGE CARD
Yes, I/we believe in the work of the Foundation.
I/We subscribe the sum of $_______ for the following.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Founder</th>
<th>Fellow+</th>
<th>Sustainer+</th>
<th>Total Gift $</th>
<th>Paid Herewith $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACCF General Endowment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ford Leadership/Operations Endowment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCF Community Grants Endowment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCF Unrestricted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCF Building Endowment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCF Women’s Fund</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Fund*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*List charity/charities for approved distribution(s)
*Limited to funds held by ACCF

Pledge Term ______________ year(s)
To be Paid: __ Annually __ Other
Name*
Address
Signature
Date
Memorial Name

$10,000 +
$1000-$9999
$1-$999

Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law. Please make gifts payable to The Ashland County Community Foundation and mail to 300 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio 44805.

I have included ACCF in my will/estate plans.

Please tell me how I can include ACCF in my will/estate plans.

www.accommunityfoundation.org
Ken Milligan has been a member of the ACCF Board of Trustees since 2013. Currently Vice Chair of the Board, he serves as chair of the Development Committee, and member of the Grants, Finance and Executive Committees.

Ken graduated from The Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree. He later attended the McIntyre School of Commerce at The University of Virginia where he received his graduate degree from The Graduate School of Retail Bank Management.

Ken and wife, Sheila, have been married for 45 years and have two daughters, Ryane and Erin and two grandchildren, Reagan and Bryston. Ryane is a teacher in the Ashland City Schools and Erin in professionally employed in Denver, Colorado. Ken and Sheila reside in Ashland and enjoy spending time with their family and like to travel.

Ken is a strong believer in giving back to his community with his time, talents and resources. Ken and Sheila established a Donor Designated Memorial Fund, at ACCF, to honor his parents for the benefit of United Way agencies for years to come.

While working for Huntington National Bank, Ken and his family moved to Ashland in 1984. Ken served the Ashland area market for Huntington as its Senior Vice President and Community Executive, working a total of 33 years for the bank. After coming out of retirement, he worked seven years for FirstMerit Bank as a Senior Vice President and Commercial Loan Officer. Currently, Ken works as a consultant for The Wayne Savings Community Bank.

Ken is a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, serving as past lay leader of the congregation, and is a member of the personnel and finance committees. He is a member of the Ashland Noon Lions Club and served as past president.

Mr. Milligan has served on numerous boards and committees. To highlight, Ken served as the United Way Campaign Chair in 1994 and 2011, as well as serving as member and past president of the United Way Board of Directors. He also served as Chair of the Steering Committee to promote and develop the Salvation Army Kroc Center. Ken was a member of the Associated Charities Board and served two terms as President. He served as a past member of the Mohican Area Growth Foundation. Ken is a current member of the Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce and has served on capital campaigns for several organizations within the community.