Preserving the Past Inspires Group to Prepare for the Future

When you ask John and Betty Gebhardt what they’re passionate about, it’s almost an immediate response: the log cabins that sit on the Mississippi River’s Quinsippi Island Park. The group of 1800s, Lincoln-era log structures include three cabins, a corn crib, a stone smokehouse and log church. A fourth cabin will be re-built later this year.

In 2007, a group of citizens noticed that the cabins were in need of attention and formed the Friends of the Log Cabins to “restore, preserve and utilize” these historic structures for current and future generations to enjoy. Ten years later, in 2017, the Gebhardts started the Friends of the Log Cabins Fund with the Community Foundation in order to secure a permanent source of income.

“We want to make sure it lasts forever and in order to do that we established an endowment fund which we hope people will contribute to,” said John. “It will eventually pay for someone to oversee this operation so there’s always someone responsible for it.”

Keeping the history alive on Quinsippi Island for generations to come is a goal for the Gebhardts and they encourage other organizations to plan for the future as well.

“Any organization that’s looking to last long term, needs to think about an endowment fund to cover the ongoing expenses, like staff, because that’s what it’s going to take to keep that operation going,” said John. An endowment fund: inspiring and enabling local non-profits to prepare for future success. To help the Friends of the Log Cabins Fund grow, visit: www.mycommunityfoundation.org/give-now.
New Funds Honor Faith, Family, and Community

The Edward C. Hinkamper Fund for St. Francis Solanus Church was established through bequest by Edward C. Hinkamper to show his appreciation for his Catholic faith. Hinkamper, who passed away in 2019, previously established a fund for St. Francis Solanus School students, saying “my desire for leaving a legacy in Quincy has been fulfilled.” Through both of these funds, Hinkamper’s love of faith and education lives on.

Farm & Home Supply is celebrating 60 years by giving back to the community through the Farm & Home Supply Giving Fund. The fund's goal is to distribute up to $120,000 to nonprofit organizations in the communities served by its stores throughout the region.

Home is important to the Kuhlman family, which is why they decided to start the Joe & Denette Kuhlman Family Fund. Grants made from this fund will be used in Adams County, where both Joe and Denette grew up and chose to raise their family. As a donor advised fund, the Kuhlmans can recommend grants to impact the needs and opportunities close to their hearts, including improving the lives of youth, supporting the arts, and for human and social services.

Leon Wood grew up in northern Adams County, near the Hancock County line. Over the years, Wood's travels took him to California, Pennsylvania, and Rhode Island. Now, he is back on the family farm, a place that shaped him into the person he is today. The Wood Endowment will be used to support programs in both Adams and Hancock Counties so, as Wood puts it, “specific organizations supported can evolve over time as needs change.”

To learn more about all of our funds, or to help them grow, visit www.mycommunityfoundation.org.

New Board Members Welcomed

The Community Foundation welcomes two leaders to its Board of Directors, representing communities from both sides of the river.

Bill Durrall, of Pittsfield, is a retired Air Force Colonel. He brings experience in organizational management and strategic planning.

Pat Benson, of Hannibal, is the founder of Benson Financial Group and has been in the financial business for over 20 years. “It is an honor and privilege to serve as a Community Foundation board member,” said Benson. “The Community Foundation has been a tremendous blessing in the lives of so many and I look forward to being part of such a great organization as they continue to make a positive impact in our region.”

In addition to welcoming new members, the Board of Directors elected Lydia Ahrens as Chair, Lance Grady as Vice Chair, and Erin Wharton as Treasurer.
Adams County Endowment Fund Reaches Fundraising Goal

After reaching its $15,000 fundraising goal, the Adams County Endowment Fund has gathered enough donations to become a permanent charitable endowment. By reaching its goal, the endowment received a $15,000 match from the Community Foundation as part of its ongoing County Endowment program. The Adams County Endowment Fund joins five other County Endowment Funds, including Brown, Hancock, and Pike Counties in Illinois, and Lewis and Marion in Missouri.

The fund’s goal is to support needs and opportunities in Adams County. A council, made up of Adams County residents, will continue building the fund and will recommend annual grants.

Residents in Clark, Knox, Monroe, Pike, Ralls, and Shelby Counties in Missouri have the opportunity to participate in the County Endowment program and receive a $15,000 match towards their fund. County Endowments are permanent, steady, and secure funds that address charitable needs and opportunities in the county for which they are built. If you are interested in participating in the program and receiving a matching gift for your county, please contact the Community Foundation at (217) 222-1237.

Bright Ideas Sought through Competitive Grant Program

The Community Foundation's annual competitive grant program is now underway and seeking bright ideas from nonprofits throughout the Community Foundation's 12-county service area. Not-for-profit organizations are invited to apply online for a grant by the program’s June 1 deadline. Grants for both general support and project support are eligible.

Applications are accepted from organizations classified as IRS 501(c)(3) or units of government located in Adams, Brown, Hancock and Pike Counties in Illinois and Clark, Knox, Lewis, Marion, Monroe, Pike, Ralls, and Shelby Counties in Missouri.

Grant awards will be presented mid-August.

To learn more and access the online application, visit www.mycommunityfoundation.org/competitive-grants
What Will Your Legacy Be?

Legacy Society members are visionaries. These dedicated individuals realize the impact of a thoughtfully planned charitable gift through the Community Foundation. The Legacy Society recognizes, with special gratitude, those who plan for the well-being of our communities for generations to come. We invite you to become a member of the Legacy Society and join a group of visionaries giving for good, forever.

In 1999, at age 27, Katherine Broemmel was the youngest person at the time to plan for the establishment of an endowment fund with her hometown Community Foundation. She died unexpectedly on March 13, 2006 at age 33, establishing the Katherine Broemmel Endowment for the Arts through a $10,000 bequest. Since then, family and friends have continued to grow the fund. Through those gifts and investment growth, it totals more than $120,000 today. Grants totaling more than $26,000 have supported programs of Arts Quincy, The Art Center, Quincy Symphony Orchestra Association, Quincy Public Schools Fine Arts Department, and Midsummer Arts Faire. Through her fund and the grants it makes, Katherine leaves a legacy of art, generosity, and community.

Katherine Broemmel

To learn more, please contact us at (217) 222-1237 or info@mycommunityfoundation.org