

2008 Annual Report



What is the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation?

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The Foundation greatly appreciates the financial support First State Bank and Trust in Bayport, Minnesota, has provided for this annual report.

About the cover:

Many thanks to Gretchen M. Stein, Foundation Chair, for her permission to use her landscape painting titled "St. Croix River Inspiration," which she painted especially for the Foundation's annual report. For more information about her work, visit her website at www.gretchenstein.com.

THE ST. CROIX VALLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION is a locally governed public trust that enables community members, regardless of their means, to make a lasting difference in the St. Croix Valley. The Foundation's central purpose is to assist donors in accomplishing their philanthropic goals to enhance this community of communities now and in the future. As a tax-exempt charitable organization, the Foundation provides flexible, efficient, and tax-effective ways to ensure that each donor's charitable giving achieves the greatest possible impact.

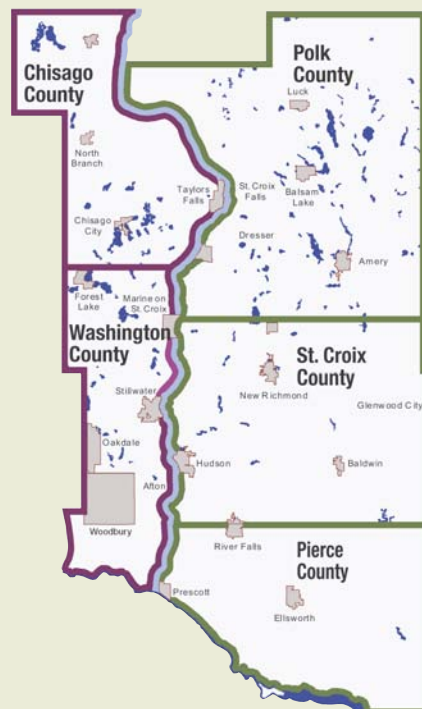
The St. Croix Valley Community Foundation is a unique institution available to assist anyone who lives, works, or has roots in the Valley and wants to make charitable contributions that will benefit this area. Founded in 1995 by a group of Valley residents, the Foundation provides a way for donors to leave a legacy of their values and beliefs to future generations, to take full advantage of the tax benefits of an estate, and to advance the quality of life in the wonderful St. Croix Valley.

The mission of the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation is to enhance the quality of life in the St. Croix Valley by:

Encouraging charitable giving in the Valley—Building permanent funds that will provide resources for the needs of today and tomorrow.

Connecting people and programs—Bringing together people's charitable interests and the funding needs of programs and organizations.

Facilitating progressive approaches—Forming partnerships and providing servant leadership through programs that enhance the quality of life in our region's distinct communities.



The St. Croix Valley Community Foundation service area of Minnesota and Wisconsin



Letter from the Board Chair

THE ST. CROIX VALLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION is poised at the dawning of a whole new chapter—some even say a whole new book—for what this organization can be to this region. These are exciting times. The St. Croix Valley Community Foundation has always been steeped in a strong and clear vision of building philanthropy to improve the quality of life in the St. Croix River Valley. This year brought significant positive organizational changes that will take this organization and its mission through the initial vision and far beyond.

Leadership in any organization is the key to its success. Our current board of directors is deeply committed and dedicated. They represent our geographical diversity and bring tremendous enthusiasm, talent, and forward thinking to this foundation. They are a wise and thoughtful group of community leaders that together have set a dynamic course for the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation to follow.

This year we saw the retirement of David Griffith, who was president of the Foundation for the past seven years. David's contributions to the Foundation are many and he was the right person at the right time to lead this foundation through its formative years. David will always stand in our history as a significant contributor to building a strong foundation for this community foundation.

We conducted a nation-wide search to find our new president and many qualified candidates responded to our call. We chose the most qualified of the qualified, Jane Hetland Stevenson. Jane's professional background is rich and varied, with work experience in nonprofit organizations, community foundations, academia, and philanthropic consulting. She is a national expert in community foundation management. We are very fortunate to have such a talented new leader guiding us forward.

There was also a change in the director of administration position. Peg Leutele completed her seven years of excellent service at the time of David's departure and was replaced by Margi Miller, who now fills this important administrative function for the Foundation.

The St. Croix Valley Community Foundation continues to grow and thrive. This year, 34 new funds were added; 20 are endowed and 14 nonendowed. A total of 395 grants were made to nonprofit organizations for a total of \$889,503.

The Foundation also continues to thrive as a community partner, convening two major groups this year; one in the arts and the other focused on the St. Croix River and watershed issues. Our 19 nonprofit Partners for the Future have raised \$600,000 of the million dollar goal at the midpoint of this three-year initiative to build endowments for these agencies within the Foundation.

Our family of affiliates continued to grow, with the Amery Community Foundation and the newly formed Chisago Lakes Area Community Foundation joining our ranks. We also continued to build good working relationships with the Hudson Community Fund and the River Falls Community Fund while reaching out to professional advisors in each of these communities.

Our first ever Legacy Celebration was recently held to thank those members of our community that are planning to remember The St Croix Valley Community Foundation in their wills and other planned gifts.

New leadership, new staff, new ideas, and well-tested founding principles make for a solid, yet dynamic community foundation that reflects this region. Thanks to the generous gift of a community donor, The St. Croix Valley Community Foundation also has a new suite of offices. Please stop in to meet our new staff, visit with those who have been around awhile, and see our new comfortable environment within which we can grow and serve you better.

Thank you for your support of this dream.



Gretchen M. Stein, PhD
Board chair



Board of Directors



FRONT ROW, seated, left to right: Chris Galvin, Woodbury, MN, Treasurer; William Campbell, River Falls, WI; Gretchen Stein, Osceola, WI, Chair; Nate Jackson, River Falls, WI; Steve Wilcox, Hudson, WI, Secretary.
BACK ROW, left to right: Charles Arnason, Marine, MN; Karen Hansen, Stillwater, MN, Vice Chair; Michael Johnson, Bonita Springs, FL; Kathy Tunheim, Stillwater, MN; C. Ann Brookman, Lake Elmo, MN; David Wettergren, Stillwater, MN; Gretchen Bell, New Richmond, WI; Patty Draxler, Amery, WI; Erv Neff, Stillwater, MN; Jim Gillespie, North Hudson, WI; Shannon Hooley Enright, Stillwater, MN; Mark Vanasse, Houlton, WI; James Lutiger, Hudson, WI. Missing are Martha Harding, St. Croix Falls, WI; and David Palmer, Stillwater, MN.

Former Board Members

Sarah Andersen
 John Baird
 Lurline Baker-Kent
 James Bradshaw
 David Brandt
 John Coughlin
 Kathleen Doar
 Lou Fuller*
 Molly Gale-Wyrick
 C.R. Hackworthy
 Jim Hankes
 George Hauser
 Rod Hofland
 Larry Horsch
 Orv Johnson
 Peter Kilde
 Barbara Klemme*
 Rita Lawson
 Daniel Lien
 Marilyn McCarty
 Dan McGuinness
 JC Pfeiffer
 Thomas Scheuerman*
 Lawrence Severson
 Lynn Shafer
 Heidi Smith-Erspamer
 John Tunheim
 Dan Willius

Founders' Society A number of individuals, businesses, and private foundations have provided program and operating support to the Foundation since its founding in 1995. We are pleased to recognize those who have contributed and pledged \$5,000 or more to further the mission of the Foundation during its formative years. This list includes all members through June 20, 2008.

Fred C. & Katherine B. Andersen Foundation	Ann & David Brookman Loren & Ruby Croone	Hardenbergh Foundation (Formerly St. Croix Foundation)	Margaret Rivers Fund
Hugh J. Andersen Foundation	The Dietz Family Fund of the St. Paul Foundation	Gerald & Yvonne Hoel	David & Marilyn Palmer
Sarah Andersen	Kathleen Doar & Alan Sinaiko	Jack & Joyce Hooley	Patrick & Jeanne Riley
Anonymous donors	First National Bank of Hudson	Hudson Community Fund	S & C Bank
Charles & Peggy Arnason	First State Bank & Trust in Bayport	Michael & Jan Johnson	Gretchen Stein & Greg Wickenhauser
John & Nancy Baird	Chris & Connie Galvin	Orville & Kathleen Johnson	Tozer Foundation
Bayport Foundation of Andersen Corporation	James & Mary Gillespie	Joyful Women Fund	John & Kathryn Tunheim
James & Jayne Bradshaw	David & Katherine Griffith	Rita & Bill Lawson	William Voedisch & Laurie Carlson
David & Sandy Brandt	C.R. & Cynthia Hackworthy, II	MAHADH Fund of HRK Foundation	Archie & Bertha Walker Foundation
Otto Bremer Foundation	Karen & Craig Hansen	McKnight Foundation	Wipfli CPAs & Consultants
			Wisconsin Arts Board

Legacy Society The gift of a bequest or other planned gift to the community foundation is an ideal way to leave a legacy of giving back to the community. Several people recognized this even during the early years of the Foundation and in recent years a number of people have notified us that they have made provisions in their estate plans for the Foundation. To recognize these farsighted people, the Board of Directors created the Legacy Society. We acknowledge with appreciation both those listed below and those who wish to have their decisions remain confidential.

John & Nancy Baird	Shannon Hooley Enright	Karen & Craig Hansen	Bill & Rita Lawson	Gretchen Stein
Jon & Metta Belisle	Jim & Mary Gillespie	Nate & Linda Jackson	Marie Olsen	Steve & Terri Wilcox
Jim & Jayne Bradshaw	David Griffith	Orville & Kathleen Johnson	Thyra S. Ostrand*	Dan & Ruth Willius
David & Sandy Brandt	C.R. & Cynthia Hackworthy, II	Michael & Jan Johnson	David & Marilyn Palmer	
Robert C. Collins		Barbara Klemme*	Irvine O. Post	

*deceased

Letter from the President

IS THE WORLD SPINNING FASTER these days? In our offices it seems like it is. There was a time when summer was a quiet time for a community foundation, but that's not the case anymore. The work of community foundations these days is *more* and *bigger* and *better* and it's full throttle every day. All of which says good things about how we're working with our donors, communities, and partners. While the volatility in the stock market has caused some concern, we continue to work with donors who just dig deeper to fund the causes and organizations they're passionate about. The St. Croix Valley Community Foundation is heading full speed into the future, working more closely with our five affiliate funds, private financial advisors throughout the region, and with our nonprofit partners as they build endowments while also serving their clients.

We are remarkably fortunate: the members of our board of directors are strong, committed leaders with an abiding dedication to the St. Croix Valley. And our staff work as parts of a well-oiled machine doing work that they love. This board and staff working jointly toward a shared vision is a powerful combination. Add the founders to the equation, who work diligently even now to expand the Foundation's reach, and you have a vibrant organization with one mission: To connect all of us in progressive ways to enhance the quality of life for everyone who lives and works in this valley.

In this, my first year as president of the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation, I am proud to carry on the tradition of the founders and current board members and David Griffith, my predecessor. And to paraphrase Pericles in his Oath of the Athenian City-State, we promise that we will transmit the St. Croix Valley "not only not less, but greater, better and more beautiful than it was transmitted to us." That is the work of this Foundation.

We invite you to join in this work with us.



Jane Hetland Stevenson
President



St. Croix Valley Community Foundation Staff



Jane Hetland Stevenson, President, surrounded by, from left, Mary Paul, Contract Accountant; Sally Hermann, Administrative Assistant; Jill Shannon, Director of Community Partnerships; and Margi Miller, Director of Administration.

St. Croix Valley Community Foundation

Committee Lists

July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008

Executive Committee

Gretchen Stein, Chair
Karen Hansen, Vice Chair
Steve Wilcox, Secretary
Chris Galvin, Treasurer

Finance and Investment Committee

Chuck Arnason
Chris Galvin, Chair
Jim Gillespie
Nate Jackson
Mike Johnson
Lisa Rinde

Board Affairs Committee

Chuck Arnason
Ann Brookman
Karen Hansen, Chair
Erv Neff
Gretchen Stein
Mark Vanasse
Steve Wilcox

Donor Services Committee

Chuck Arnason, Co-chair
Ann Brookman
Jim Gillespie
Shannon Hooley Enright
Nate Jackson, Co-chair
Jim Lutiger
Gretchen Stein
Dave Wettergren
Steve Wilcox

Community Partnership Committee

Bill Campbell, Chair
John Coughlin
Patty Draxler
Chris Galvin
Marty Harding
Erv Neff
Lynn Shafer
Gretchen Stein
Mark Vanasse

Audit Committee

Patty Draxler, Chair
Jim Gillespie
Karen Hansen
David Palmer
Dave Wettergren, Co-chair

Branding Task Force

Shannon Hooley Enright
John Knutson
Marilyn McCarty
Kathy Tunheim, Co-chair
Steve Wilcox, Co-chair

Funds Available to Donors

Because the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation serves the St. Croix Valley as a whole, it has the capacity to target its funds at issues that are region-wide or community specific. How a gift is used depends on each donor's charitable goals and wishes. The following types of funds have been created to serve the various objectives of our donors. Funds may be named after the donor, a loved one, or for the organization it supports.

Unrestricted Endowment Fund provides the Foundation directors with the flexibility to respond to the changing needs of the community by investing in programs and opportunities for philanthropic support.

Field-of-Interest Funds allow donors to specify the particular area where the income from their gift will be targeted (see page 12).

Donor-Designated Funds benefit specific charitable organizations or named projects that are named at the time of the gift. These funds may be short-term or endowed (see page 8).

Donor-Advised Funds benefit the charitable interests of the donors, who have the option of on-going involvement as fund advisors. Funding recommendations are made to the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation's Board of Directors based on the dedicated purpose of the fund. Donor-advised funds may be set up as short-term funds or endowed (see page 8).

Agency Funds enable an organization to establish its own long-term fund at the Foundation. The Foundation handles the investment and management of the assets, distributing the earnings to the agency (see page 7).

Acorn Funds are designed for medium-level donors who want to establish an endowment fund over time by making regular contributions until a target dollar amount or date is reached.

Administrative Endowment Fund supports the Foundation's operations and programs. A strong administrative endowment keeps fees low while providing perpetual support for operations.

Scholarship Funds are established to provide annual scholarships to area youth (see page 7).

Agency Funds:

Big Brothers Big Sisters Fund
 Carpenter Nature Center Fund*
 Community Volunteer Services Fund
 Courage St. Croix Fund
 Croixdale Mission Benevolence Fund
 Ezekiel Lutheran Church Fund
 FamilyMeans Facilities Fund
 FamilyMeans Fund
 Family Resource Center
 SCV Bright Future Fund
 Hazel Mackin Library Fund*
 Hudson Health Foundation Fund
 HSI Endowment Fund
 Francis & Maryllis Oehlke Fund for HSI
 Robert Butler Leadership Development Fund
 Kinship of Polk County Fund*
 Lakes Area Youth Service Bureau Fund
 Land Stewardship Project Fund
 Lucy Winton Bell Athletic Fields
 New Richmond Preservation Society Fund
 Northern Star Boy Scout Fund
 Partnership Plan Endowment
 Ruth Geary Arts Fund
 David Croonquist Fund of the Endowment
 for Excellence
 David & Sandy Brandt Fund for Excellence*
 Dr. Tom F. Linde Fund

Lundquist Endowment for the Sciences
 Orchestra Legacy Fund
 Weingarten "What's Best For Kids" Fund
 Partnership Plan Endowment for Excellence
 The Phipps Center for the Arts Fund
 Wendell A. Petersen Family Fund for Arts
 Pierce County Historical Association Fund
 River Falls Library Foundation Fund*
 Somerset Public Library Endowment Fund
 St. Paul Episcopal Church-Douglas
 Beauchamp Memorial Fund
 Standing Cedars Endowment Fund
 Standing Cedars Opportunity Fund*
 Stillwater Public Library Athena Fund
 Turningpoint Fund
 United Way Food Resources Long-term Fund
 United Way of Washington County-East
 Endowment Fund
 United Way St. Croix Valley Long-term Fund
 Valley Senior Services Alliance Fund
 Washington County Historical Society's Fund
 West CAP Endowment Fund
 West CAP Fund
 West Wisconsin Land Trust Fund*
 White Pine Festival Fund
 Youth Service Bureau Fund



Dora M. Rohlf of the Hazel Mackin Library Association presents a check to Foundation president Jane Hetland Stevenson to establish the Hazel Mackin Library Fund. The \$250,000 check, from the Fred C. and Katherine B. Andersen Foundation, will go to help build a new library in Roberts, Wisconsin.

Scholarship Funds:

Chuck Anderson Scholarship Fund
 Paul L. Anderson Scholarship Fund
 Ranger Jeremy Bird Memorial Scholarship
 Sadie & John Burman Memorial Art
 Scholarship
 Anne Cernohous Borchartdt Music Scholarship
 Todd K. Christensen Memorial Scholarship
 Boake Christenson Memorial Scholarship
 James and Patricia Foy Scholarship
 Doris Fuka Scholarship Fund
 Janet Hansen Scholarship Fund

Peter Haugen Memorial Scholarship
 Dr. Val Kremser Medical Scholarship Fund
 Daryl K. and Lois Lien Scholarship
 Karl D. Ludvigson Memorial Scholarship Fund
 James McLaughlin Scholarship Fund
 Mooney Scholarship
 Bradley W. Nordstrand Scholarship Fund
 Ern Peaslee Memorial Scholarship Fund
 SCVCF Young Life/RealLife Scholarship Fund
 St. Croix Valley Harley Owners' Group
 Scholarship Fund

Speaks Family Scholarship for Drama
 Stower Family Scholarship
 Barbara Voedisch Scholarship Fund
 Volga Scholarship
 Waterman Scholarship
 Wes "Coach" Windmiller Memorial
 Scholarship Fund
 Henry Yetter Wrestling Scholarship

*new funds established this fiscal year

Donor-Designated Funds:

Fund for Ascension Episcopal Church
 Community Action Endowed Fund
 Jonathan Patrick Erspamer Fund
 Friends of Perch Lake Fund
 Charlotte K. Kirby Fund

Hudson Community Built Playground
 Lake St. Croix Beach Community Playground
 Leadership Hudson Fund
 Lifeline Fund
 Marr T. Haack Legacy Fund*

Dan O'Connell Peace Garden Fund
 Nelle Johnson Potts Fund
 Riverway Park Partnership Fund
 Stillwater Area Health & Education Fund
 Thomas J. Scheuerman Youth Fund*

Donor-Advised Funds:

Blake & Beth Abdella Fund
 Don Anderson Family Fund
 Paul L. Anderson Short-term Fund
 Charles & Peggy Arnason Fund
 Baird Family Fund
 Jon & Metta Belisle Endowment Fund
 The Belisle Fund
 Marie & Harry Blakeman Memorial Fund
 Bradshaw Celebration of Life Endowed Fund
 Bradshaw Celebration of Life Fund
 Jim & Jayne Bradshaw Family Fund
 David & Sandy Brandt Short-term Fund
 David & Sandy Brandt Family Fund
 Brookman Family Fund
 Howard & Dorothy Brown Fund
 John & Mary Cameron Fund
 Loren & Ruby Croone Fund
 Allan & Diane Dettmann Endowed Fund
 Tim & Vallie Ericson Fund
 Ezekiel Lutheran Church LACE Fund
 Forest Lake Rotary Schumacher Field Fund
 Mark & Maeta Gherty Family Fund
 Griswold Fund
 C.R. Hackworthy II Family Fund
 Janet M. Hansen Fund
 Karen Ciegler Hansen & Craig J. Hansen Family Fund

Heiser Family Fund
 Glen O. & Elizabeth I. Helmen Memorial Fund
 Allison Helmen Memorial Fund
 Gerald & Yvonne Hoel Family Fund
 Gerald & Yvonne Hoel Fund
 Hudson Physicians Fund
 Jack & Joyce Hooley Endowment Fund
 Jack & Joyce Hooley Fund
 Hudson Daybreak Rotary Endowment Fund*
 Hudson Daybreak Rotary Long-term Fund
 Nate & Linda Jackson Future Fund
 Nate & Linda Jackson Fund
 Richard & Carolyn Jackson Charitable Fund
 Anthony & Anne Jilek Fund*
 Michael O. Johnson Short-term Fund
 Orville & Kathleen Johnson Family Fund
 Orville & Kathy Johnson Short-term Fund
 Marie, Ingrid, & Katherine Kilde Fund
 Krueger Family Fund
 Bill & Rita Lawson Family Fund*
 Lawson Family Fund
 Charles & Deborah LeRoux Family Fund
 Tim Linehan Friends Fund
 Tim Linehan Memorial Fund
 Margaret B. Mattlin Fund
 Patricia Condon McDonald & Malcolm McDonald Fund

Allen & Corinne Metcalf Fund
 Lois B. Michaelson Endowed Fund
 G. & J. Museus Family Fund
 George & Dorothy Nelson Fund
 Nicholas & Kathryn Nelson Charitable Fund
 Burt Nordstrand Family Fund*
 Dan O'Connell Leadership Fund
 Nancy Orgeman Fund
 PARC Fund
 Arlene & JC Pfeiffer Fund
 Physicians' Fund
 Keith & Jody Radtke Fund
 Don & Ellie Richards Fund
 Sandy Hills Fund
 Thomas J. Scheuerman Memorial Fund
 Dean & Lynn Shafer Fund
 David & Donna Smith Family Fund*
 Stillwater Fund for a Performing & Visual Arts Funds
 Stillwater Sunrise Rotary Charity Fund
 Stine Fund
 Bruce & Mary Swenson Fund
 Tom & Suki Thomsen Fund
 Kevin & Rita Vance Family Fund
 Ronald & Susan Weiler Family Fund
 White Pine Fund

*new funds established this fiscal year

Gifts in 2008:

Honorary Gifts were contributed in honor of the following individuals:

David Griffith
 Peg Leutele

Memorial Gifts were contributed in memory of the following individuals:

Kathleen Deal
 Marita Hallquist
 Sandy Jorgenson
 Cletus Koller
 Kenneth Kull

Leo McAleavy
 Clifford "Skip" Mottaz
 Daniel O'Connell
 Nancy O'Connell
 Harry D. Peterson

Clarabelle Richardson
 Deanne Strette
 Marguerite Sumner
 Dorothy Wright

Donor-Advised Fund Profiles

Janet M. Hansen Fund

JANET HANSEN FIRST LEARNED about the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation when she was on the original board of directors of the River Falls Community Fund. David Griffith, Foundation president at the time, spent many hours with the River Falls Community Fund board explaining how the Foundation could help them establish their Affiliated Community Fund (see page 16).

After learning about the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation, Janet went on to establish the Janet M. Hansen Donor-Advised Fund in 2004. "It was a unique avenue for investments to be sold and the value passed on to charities," she says. It is "extremely important" to her that her money stays local since "resources for most of my choices are very limited and without contributions they may cease to exist." Janet says her donor-advised fund is "a means to reach out and help those whose needs in life are not being met."

The Janet M. Hansen Fund benefits a wide array of local organizations, selected personally by Janet because "They represent organizations that reach out to and provide assistance for those with very special needs" and they "are special to my heart." Organizations that have benefitted from her fund include Turningpoint, a domestic abuse shelter in River Falls; Grace Place and Faith House, homeless and domestic abuse shelters in Somerset; River Falls Food Shelf; Kinnickinnic Free Clinic in River Falls; and United Church of Christ First Congregational Church, Janet's home congregation in River Falls.

Janet's help doesn't stop at providing funding. She also does volunteer work at Turningpoint, the River Falls Food Shelf, and the Kinnickinnic Free Clinic, where she can see firsthand the need in her community. At the Free Clinic, she greets the clients and helps them with paperwork and prescription refills and generally makes them feel welcome and comfortable while they wait to see medical personnel. At Turningpoint and the River Falls Food Shelf, Janet helps ensure the shelves are stocked and in order as well as make clients feel welcome and comfortable.

Janet says she has chosen to give back to her community because she says her "life and the lives of my family members have been blessed" with



"love, health, homes, and education. Certainly, one that has so much must give and share with those that are struggling to make it through each day. One never knows when a life will be touched by a gift."

Janet and her husband, Glenn, have lived in rural River Falls 24 years. They have a blended family, including five children and ten grandchildren. To them, the St. Croix Valley is a place "where tranquility and peace and happiness abound. It is where our friends are and where our church family welcomes us." Janet received a BS in Elementary Education from Macalester College in St. Paul and a MS in Elementary Education from the University of Wisconsin River Falls. Before retirement, she taught Kindergarten in the Hastings Public School system for 22 years and also implemented and guided the Mentor Program for the District.

Janet reports that creating a donor-advised fund with the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation was an easy process, facilitated by her financial advisor. Janet's main involvement was to get the money into the fund and then help decide how it will be dispensed. The Foundation handles all the other administrative aspects for her. She says her fund has definitely met her expectations, and she encourages other people to consider establishing a donor fund. She says it is "a very easy way to deliver your funds to the charities you wish to support."



Karen Ciegler Hansen & Craig J. Hansen Fund

LIKE MANY EMPTY NESTERS, when their children were grown, Karen and Craig Hansen thought about moving to another part of the country, perhaps somewhere with mountains or an ocean. After reflecting on the many ties they had established over their 25 years in the St. Croix Valley—together with its strong library, schools, hospital, medical services, and other non-profit organizations—they decided that they “have no thought of ever moving out of Stillwater.”

To them, their decision to stay was the sign of a healthy and strong community, one where people want to live. This realization helped lead them to their decision to partner with the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation because of its “focus on the St. Croix Valley.” They appreciate the fact that their donor-advised fund is a way they can invest in the community. Karen elaborates, saying, “The Community Foundation shares our personal values. It is important for those who live in and appreciate the valley to contribute to the valley. We all benefit from a healthy community. A healthy community does not happen accidentally. It takes the concerted efforts of many of its citizens.”

The Hansens realize that they are not the only ones who believe that the St. Croix Valley is special. Karen says, “It is a place with much history and native beauty, and because of that, it faces issues and will continue to face issues in the future. Many people want to visit and live here. This puts pressure on the same community that we enjoy.”

Karen points out that, “The St. Croix Valley is more diverse than it first looks. There are many here who need the assistance of our nonprofit organizations. In order to be a vital community, a number of nonprofits are critically necessary. These include social-service agencies, a strong school system, a library, the arts, environmental preservation, green space, public parks, youth opportunities, and planned growth.”

Karen says they were attracted to an endowment fund because of its permanence. “These endowment funds will contribute to the long-term health of the Foundation, the organization, the people in the valley, and our community. We have kept most of the money in the donor-advised fund and have not asked for distributions from the fund in order to continue to build for the future. We believe strongly in contributing both to current operating funds of organizations as well as to the endowment funds of those same organizations. Those are organizations which share the commitment to our community and our values.”

The Hansens’ two children were born in the valley and graduated from Stillwater High School. Karen and Craig are pleased with the outstanding education their children received and feel strongly about maintaining “the excellence of the public schools.” When their children were young, Karen and Craig had them help write the checks to charities each year for the family’s contributions. When they created their donor-advised fund, they discussed its purpose with their children, as well as their role in eventually making decisions regarding distributions from the fund.

Karen and Craig not only believe it is important to contribute financially, but also with their time. Karen is completing her 9th year on the board of the Foundation. They have both served on the board of the Stillwater Area Public Schools Partnership Plan and Craig is currently the board chair. Karen is serving her second term on the board of FamilyMeans. They are both members of the Stillwater Sunrise Rotary. They have volunteered at schools, and Craig coached youth sports for 14 years, served on the Valley Athletic Association, and was president of the Soccer Booster Club. Professionally, Karen is an estate-planning attorney with Felhaber, Larson, Fenlon & Vogt, P.A. and Craig is a professor at Metropolitan State University, where he teaches business and technical communication.

Bill & Rita Lawson Family Fund

BILL AND RITA LAWSON can claim ties to both sides of the St. Croix River. Rita's father's family is from the Minnesota side of the river, and Bill's family moved to the Somerset, Wisconsin, area when he was five. The couple has lived there about 30 years, raising a son and a daughter. Rita and Bill are both active in their community, serving on various boards and committees. It was Rita's membership on the board of the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation that led them to establish their donor-advised fund in 2007.

When asked their main reason for establishing the Bill and Rita Lawson Family Fund, Bill and Rita say "financial efficiency," or "being able to donate more money." They elaborate, saying, "Establishing the donor-advised fund by donating stock at a period of peak income allowed us to fully utilize the tax deduction and to avoid personal and capital gains tax on the sale of the stock, together yielding maybe 30 percent more money for charities."

Other benefits they list include having more time to give thought to their donations, being able to react to future needs they aren't aware of now, and to begin to include their children as advisors. They feel the donor-advised fund is a good choice for anyone who gets a large amount of money in a short time span, from an inheritance, the sale of a house or real estate, winnings from the lottery, etc. They like the fact that, "The fund will be there to benefit the community through the Foundation long after a person can no longer make direct donations themselves."

The Lawsons also wanted to show their support for the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation's strong mission to help create and grow other charitable groups throughout the valley as exemplified by the Foundation's Community Partnership Initiative. They are happy to know that the money earned from the fund helps support the Foundation's activities and benefit the people, agencies, and communities throughout their five-county service

area. "We want to help assure the future of the Foundation because it is in a unique position to run initiatives and programs matched to the needs of the agencies and communities in this valley."

It is Rita and Bill's plan that their fund will benefit the local charities they had donated to in the past, including their church in Stillwater, United Way St. Croix County, local schools and universities, Martell's Landing Education Center in Somerset Township, Somerset Public Library, and Kinnickinnic River Land Trust.

They also hope to help support a new initiative, a capital campaign to purchase Camp Ojiketa near Chisago City in hopes of preserving this open space as a park. The 70-acre camp is located on more than 3,100 feet of lakeshore on the eastern shores of Green Lake and includes high quality oak forest and marshes. Camp Ojiketa holds fond memories for Rita. She spent many summers there when she was young attending Camp Fire Girls Camp. When the Camp Fire program changed and was no longer able to support the camp, the City of Chisago and fellow alumni from the camp stepped in to work together to keep the area as a green space.

"We are fortunate to have benefited financially from our work and we feel it is important to give back to the community some part of what life has given us, especially if it can be used to leverage other peoples' giving to achieve charitable purposes," say Bill and Rita.



Thank you
St. Croix Valley
Community
Foundation for
the Mozart tickets
and the money for
the buses!!



Field-of-Interest Funds in Action:

Music Education Endowment Fund

Last year more than 85 third and fourth grade students from Hagar City, Wisconsin, got on a school bus, crossed the St. Croix River, and traveled fifty miles to Orchestra Hall in Minneapolis to see “Mozart, You Kid You!,” a performance highlighting the life and music of Wolfgang Mozart.

More than tickets and a bus ride, the students received an introduction to classical music and theatrical performance. For some, it led to a new appreciation for classical music. As one child said, “This kind of music isn’t so bad... before I thought it was snotty music!” Others were thrilled by their first trip to the Twin Cities. Since the trip was ultimately the result of donor generosity, teacher Lori Fuller also used the event as an opportunity to teach her students about philanthropy.

The St. Croix Valley Community Foundation’s Music Education Program was made possible by an anonymous donor who was once a music teacher. Each year the program gives grants like this one to benefit students of all ages, from preschool through high school. Funds are used to replace badly worn instruments, for computers and recording equipment to enhance composition and rehearsals, and to hear or receive instruction from world-class musicians. Experienced music educators from both Wisconsin and Minnesota read the proposals and make recommendations to the Foundation’s Board of Directors.

Field-of-Interest Funds

FIELD-OF-INTEREST FUNDS are an effective way for a donor to provide support to an issue or cause they care deeply about. The donor specifies an area of interest, and the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation uses these funds to support the most appropriate projects within the prescribed area of interest.

This type of fund offers a practical way for people who want to know their gift is being put to its best use without having to invest a lot of their own time and effort. Foundation president Jane Hetland Stevenson says, “Field-of-interest funds are perfect for a donor who is interested in a particular issue area but who does not need to have hands-on in grant making. They may want to know that their philanthropic dollars are investing in, say, education, but perhaps are too busy in their career to focus on exactly which nonprofit organization should receive a grant. They trust the integrity of the Foundation’s Board of Directors to make the right decisions about community needs.”

Jill Shannon, St. Croix Valley Community Foundation director of community partnerships, elaborates on the more emotional aspects of field-of-interest funds, saying they “are for donors who care deeply about a particular issue or cause, such as river protection. They are passionate about using their money to address a cause, or see a particular type of change and are less interested in the organizations that address the issue—since there may be many. Or they realize that there may be multiple approaches to address a single issue. In other words, the issue or cause, to them, is much bigger than the organizations involved. They care, so they follow their heart and give to causes that matter to them.”

Field-of-interest funds are an important part of the Foundation’s mission. Stevenson says they allow the Foundation “to have sufficient funds in each interest area to be able to more fully cover community needs. As these funds grow over time, future board members will be able to thank forward-thinking donors who understood that a community foundation needs these resources to serve communities in its service area.”

Another important aspect of field-of-interest funds is the way the money can be leveraged, allowing donors “to maximize their impact by joining others who share their interests,” points out Shannon. “A single donor’s gift to the river can only go so far. But when their gift is pooled with others who share that interest then collectively their gifts can have greater impact.”

THE FIRST THING donors are asked when setting up a field-of-interest fund is to identify the things they care most about. What do they want for their community, and what are some of



Park Ranger John Weinberg explains the significance of Senator Gaylord Nelson, founder of Earth Day, to sixth grade students from Osceola as part of the kick-off celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act and the establishment of the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway.



St. Croix National Scenic Riverway's 2008 Youth Conservation Corps crew replaces a fire ring as part of campsite maintenance.

the aspects they want to preserve and support? Funds can be established in the donor's name, the name of a family member, or someone they wish to honor. They may also be given anonymously.

Once the fund is established, the Foundation oversees distribution of the grants, ensuring the funds reach organizations that are making a difference in the area specified by the donor. The Foundation stays in close contact with donors, keeping them informed on the impact of the grants from the funds. Donors know their money will be invested wisely and according to their wishes.

As Stevenson points out, "The Board of the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation, or any community foundation, has the fiduciary responsibility to steward the funds it holds. It also has a moral responsibility to use the funds wisely and well. The fund agreements we have with all donors are held in sacred trust. In most cases, and certainly in our case, the board of directors is comprised of people with the highest integrity and all are leaders in their communities. Community foundations are regulated by the IRS and are audited by independent auditors each year."

The regular minimum amount to establish a field-of-interest fund is \$5,000. Grants are not made until the SCVCF has had the funds for at least one year so they can earn the interest that is available for granting. The Foundation uses a selection committee to help in awarding grants to organizations and programs that are making a difference in the area specified by the donor.

The Foundation informs the appropriate community organizations when these funds become available and provides easy-to-follow application guidelines on the website. Stevenson encourages non-profit organizations to call the Foundation office to talk with staff about their proposal.

Field-of-Interest Funds in Action:

St. Croix National Scenic Riverway Fund

The recently endowed St. Croix National Scenic Riverway Fund is designated to enhance and preserve the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway, supporting projects that maintain and improve water quality, bring the river's cultural heritage to life, enrich local history or engage young people, sparking their appreciation for the river's future. Individuals, families, and businesses are invited to add to this fund. It is a lasting resource to protect the river today and to enrich our region's most cherished resource for generations to come.

Field-of-Interest Funds address a broad range of current and future needs, from arts and education to emergency human needs and environmental causes.

Arts & Music

Arts Field-of-Interest Fund*
Music Education Endowment Fund
Valley Arts Initiative

Civic Projects & Issues

Nonprofit Management Assistance

Environment

St. Croix National Scenic Riverway Fund
Robert Uppgren Fund for Sustainable Communities

Health & Human Services

Amery Building Murals*
Amery Pool*
Amery Riverfront Development Gift*
Golden Age Memorials*

Health & Wellness

Hoel Stewart Family Fund
Jorgensen Field*
LADDA Endowed Fund
LADDA Long-Term Activities Fund

*new funds established this fiscal year

Affiliated Community Funds

Benefitting Communities for Generations to Come

The St. Croix Valley Community Foundation partners with several area communities through affiliated community funds. These communities have established a family of funds to respond to specific needs in their area. While the Foundation manages and invests the funds and provides administrative support, the affiliated fund's own board of directors assesses community needs, recommends grants, and builds assets. This partnership allows a community to have the benefits of a community foundation without having office or staff expenses. Communities use their funds to make grants for local recreation, beautification projects, and human service needs.



Affiliated Community Fund Profile:

Hudson Community Fund



The 2007-08 Governing Board of the Hudson Community Fund: Seated left to right, Susan Gilbert, President; Dick Whitcomb, Vice President/Development; Jay Griggs, Vice President/ Communications; Steve Schroeder, Treasurer; and Joel Skinner, Secretary. Standing left to right, Sam Cari, Past President; Kevin Helmen; Mark Gherty; Kevin Vance; Tom O'Connell; John Schommer; Annette Cook; and Tricia Christiansen. Not pictured is Jack Breault.

Established in 1999 to attract and develop community and philanthropic assets to enhance the quality of life of individuals and families in the Hudson, Wisconsin area.

Hudson is a community noted for its high quality of life and its citizens' willingness to seek innovative ways to maintain and further enhance their community's livability. This quaint river town, built on rich history, is one of the fastest growing regions in the state. Despite this rapid growth and development, Hudson has managed to maintain its historic charm and panoramic beauty.

The Hudson Community Fund was established in 1999 to help enhance and preserve the quality of life of citizens, and it has been affiliated with the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation since its inception. Susie Gilbert, fund board chair, says they decided to partner with the Foundation because "it created an opportunity to provide Hudson citizens a means to give back to their community in various ways that would benefit the donors and the community in which they live."

The Hudson Community Fund focuses its funding in the areas of education, human services, civic projects, youth, and the environment. Funds are distributed through grant requests. At the end of December 2007, the fund had a balance of \$1,350,000, which consisted of scholarship funds, donor advised funds, and the unrestricted endowment fund. The unrestricted endowment fund balance was \$217,000.

The Hudson Community Fund has found many advantages to working with the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation over the years. Gilbert says, "It eliminates the need for the Hudson Community Fund to hold a 501(c) (3) tax status and the administrative work that goes along with it. They also provide the expertise needed to administer the funds, and actively manage and invest the assets. Being affiliated with the Foundation allows volunteer boards to concentrate on building their resources dedicated for their communities and not have to be concerned about administration and managing investments, allowing them to be more effective."

Projects Funded by the Hudson Community Fund

The Fund's identified fields of interest address a broad range of current and future needs, from arts and education to emergency human needs to environmental causes.

BRIDGE for Youth with Disabilities	Hudson High School Senior All Night Party
Carpenter St. Croix Valley Nature Center	Hudson Hockey Association expansion
Community Action	Hudson Memorial Hospital Capital Campaign
E.P. Rock Elementary Stand by Me Program	Hudson Side Kicks Booster Club
Family Resource Center, St. Croix Valley	Minnesota Orchestra Association
Gateway to Environmental Learning	Operation Help
Hudson Community Built Playground	SOS Players
Hudson High School Scholarships	The Phipps Center for the Arts Bench Project
	Turningpoint

River Falls Community Fund



River Falls Community Fund Board of Directors: Left to right, Sandra Smith Wurm, Chair; Steve Leitch; Linda Jacobson, Past Chair; Byron Dopkins; Nate Jackson, Treasurer; Dan Davison, Secretary; Jeff McCardle, Vice Chair; Leo Beskar; Bonnie Carroll; and Judy Rommel.

Established in 1999 with the purpose of serving the greater River Falls, Wisconsin, area as a community fund which seeks to attract and develop community and philanthropic assets which will enhance the quality of life for individuals and families in the area.

“A River Runs Through It” could be an appropriate slogan for the city of River Falls. The beautiful and well-preserved Kinnickinnic River winds through the town before it meets the mighty St. Croix River. This connection to the rivers is an important one for the citizens of River Falls, and one that the River Falls Community Fund respectfully acknowledges. In addition to its strong environmental focus, the fund also recognizes its strong community volunteer involvement and works hard to keep this community’s sense of place amid the growing pressures from surrounding areas.

For help in meeting these goals, the River Falls Community Fund turned to the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation. Board member Linda Jacobson says, “Partnering with the Foundation was the only way we could see forming a community fund. With the Foundation as our partner, we were able to forgo all the steps, time and expense to set up a separate nonprofit organization. The Foundation provides necessary management, ensures we are in compliance with the IRS while also providing the all-volunteer

board with much needed expertise and guidance in operating a foundation. Affiliating with the Foundation also provides a lot of credibility to our community fund.”

The River Falls Community Fund has been affiliated with the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation since its inception in December 1999. As of February 2008, the overall funds under the River Falls Community Fund umbrella were about \$650,000, with unrestricted general funds equaling \$117,000. The restricted funds included agency funds, endowed funds, scholarship funds, partnership funds, memorial funds, and donor-advised funds.

The granting process begins with a simple application. A couple of board members visit with the applicants to discuss their request and then present the information to the entire board. Occasionally there will be a presentation by the applicant at a board meeting. The board discusses the project’s strengths and weaknesses and how it fits within the fund’s mission. The full board votes on each decision. Once approved by both the River Falls Community Fund and the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation, the recipient organization receives its award.

Nate Jackson, a River Falls resident who is a board member of the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation, says another big advantage of affiliation with the Foundation “is the greater array of options we can offer people who are charitably minded. Rather than just asking people to make a contribution to the River Falls Community Fund unrestricted fund—a concept and all-volunteer organization that is still not well known and understood—through our affiliation with the Foundation, we can suggest other options such as creating a donor-advised fund, that simplifies the donors’ charitable giving while giving them increased tax benefits.”

Linda Jacobson adds, “Having the stability and backing of the Foundation provides additional professionalism, momentum, and confidence both to board members and to potential donors, that we are here for the long haul and that we are part of something bigger.”

Projects Funded by the River Falls Community Fund

Boy Scouts	River Falls Reads
Community Arts Base	Riverway Park Partnership
First Responders (defibrillator)	SART (Sexual Abuse Response Team)
Leadership River Falls	Turningpoint Domestic Abuse Shelter
Local food pantry	YMCA
Restorative Justice Program	WPCA Radio

Amery Community Foundation



Amery Community Foundation Board of Directors: Back row left to right, Paige Williams, Sally Klevgard, Ray Siggins, Margee Lien, Dan Lien, and Larry Riemschneider. Front row left to right, Bruce Johnson, Karen Krupa, Mary Lou Stanley, and Joyle Anderson. Not pictured are Margo Rosen, Dan Draxler, & David Erspamer.

Affiliated with the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation in 2008 to enhance the quality of life in the Amery area by introducing the establishment of endowment of funds to serve the local community now and in the future and by addressing Amery's needs by providing leadership and resources.

Although the Amery Community Foundation is the “new kid on the block,” it has already made its mark in this west-central Wisconsin town. The list of organizations that have benefitted from the foundation includes a senior center, the historical society, multiple arts groups, as well as several youth organizations.

Amery is the largest community in Polk County and serves as a center for shopping, arts, recreation, and healthcare. A quaint community with the natural beauty offered by the Apple River, North Twin and South Twin Lakes, and Pike Lake, Amery offers its residents a wonderful quality of life through the services provided by both public agencies and the volunteerism inherent in the community.

This “small town feeling” and the community’s natural beauty are among the assets the Amery Community Foundation Board of Advisors has identified as important and worth preserving. Paige Williams, secretary of the foundation, says, “Amery has many civic organizations with many volunteers. Our citizens are dedicated to the children and students of this community, which is evident by the numerous scholarships our foundation has. We are also dedicated to the arts and nature.”

The foundation had had a relationship with the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation for some time, and decided to partner with them in 2008 to be able to provide more programs and opportunities for the community. Williams says, “The Foundation provides this, plus much more. It provides more opportunities to smaller communities, is well known throughout the area, and is dedicated to people and organizations.”

Since they are a smaller foundation, Williams says they only get a dozen or so requests a year and are therefore able to discuss each proposal and decide as a board whether to grant their request. The board meets a minimum of four times a year. Total assets as of April 28, 2008, equaled \$534,883, with unrestricted assets being \$239,199.

The partnership with the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation has definitely been the right choice for the Amery Community Foundation. They are enjoying the many opportunities the Foundation is able to provide their community and are taking advantage of the professional staff, the financial advisors, and the more extensive portfolio. Williams says, “The possibilities are endless and the advantages great. We look forward to being with the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation and what it will provide.”

Projects Funded by the Amery Community Foundation

Amery Centennial Hall (Senior Center)	Jorgenson baseball/softball field
Amery Hockey Arena	Local scholarships
Books for Babies	Polk County Historical Society
Indianhead Chorus	Skateboard park
Interfaith Care Givers	The Haven
	WPCA Radio



Partners for the Future

Challenge Initiative

While their missions are varied, the nineteen organizations participating in the Partners for the Future Initiative share one thing in common: their work enhances the St. Croix Valley, making this special region what it is today and what it will be tomorrow.

For the generous people who care about the valley, including its people, the river, our scenic landscapes, and our cultural character, Partners for the Future is a unique opportunity for local donors to double their impact on our region's future. Over three years every dollar a partner organization raises and places in a permanent fund will be matched by the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation dollar-for-dollar. By the end of 2009, local nonprofits will have \$2 million dedicated for future growth. With a fund that grows and keeps giving, each organization is well positioned to be responsive to current needs as well as the many changes this region is undergoing.

Thanks to their donors' generosity, our partner organizations had raised 65 percent of their collective goal as of June 2008, the midpoint of this three-year initiative. Many have met and exceeded their original goal, and others are well on their way.

These 19 participating organizations care for the St. Croix Valley by:

- **Making our families strong**
- **Enhancing our unique cultural & historic resources**
- **Preserving the river and our scenic landscapes**
- **Celebrating our creative spirit**

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwestern Wisconsin

Carpenter St. Croix Valley Nature Center

Courage St. Croix

Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley

FamilyMeans

HSI-Human Services, Inc. Washington County

Hudson Health Foundation

Kinship of Polk County

Lakes Area Youth Service Bureau

New Richmond Preservation Society

The Partnership Plan for Stillwater Area Schools

The Phipps Center for the Arts

Standing Cedars Community Land Conservancy

Turningpoint for Victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence

United Way St. Croix Valley

West CAP

West Wisconsin Land Trust

Young Life St. Croix Valley

Youth Service Bureau

Community Partnerships

The St. Croix Valley Community Foundation is proud of its partnerships with various community organizations. Collectively these partnerships— involving donors, nonprofit organizations, and the Foundation—strengthen our local nonprofit organizations and enhance the character of local communities in the face of our region’s rapid growth.

While these partnerships and activities vary from year to year, they cluster into three broad areas:

Fostering Community Dialogue around key local issues such as growth, rural change, sustainable development, and community art through regional forums and Conversations of the Valley, a monthly public affairs luncheon.

Promoting Vital Nonprofit Organizations through workshops and grants that strengthen nonprofit leadership and management.

Partnering for Action with pertinent organizations to achieve positive results for our communities.

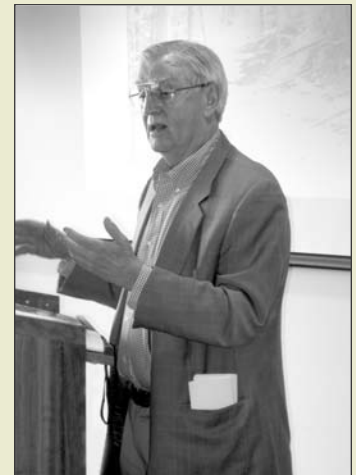


Partnering for Action in 2008

ONE PARTNERSHIP OF THE ST. CROIX VALLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION resulted in better protection of one our region’s greatest assets, the St. Croix River, by supporting its importance as an integral part of our region’s environmental, cultural, and economic vitality.

At a gathering commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, Former Vice President and Senator Walter Mondale offered an inspiring call to action to more than fifty St. Croix River stakeholders. Mondale warned that the river is currently under threat of a series of “nicks and cuts” that are eroding the qualities that make the St. Croix a nationally significant river.

Mondale’s comments were part of a one-day meeting initiated by the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation and the McKnight Foundation to re-energize efforts to protect the river and watershed. Participating organizations included the National Park Service, St. Croix River Association, West Wisconsin Land Trust, Washington County’s Land and Water Legacy Program, Trust for Public Land, and St. Croix Scenic Coalition. One of the day’s outcomes was a movement to create a watershed-wide organization to unify citizen education and advocacy around water quality and land protection.



Grant Recipients

IN FISCAL YEAR 2008, the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation made grants totaling \$889,503 to the following nonprofit organizations throughout the valley.

Arts & Music

ArtReach Alliance
Franconia Sculpture Park
Hudson Middle School
Lake Elmo, Oak Park, & Stonebridge Elementaries
Luck Community School
Lamar Community Center, Inc.
Meyer Middle School
Minnesota Orchestra
Music St. Croix
New Richmond East Elementary School
Oakland Junior High School
Osceola Main Street & Chamber of Commerce
Park High School
Plum City Elementary School
Prairie View Elementary School
Prescott High School
River Falls Community Arts Base Inc.
SOS Players
St. Croix ArtBarn
St. Croix Central Middle School
St. Croix Concert Series
St. Croix Watershed Research Station
Stillwater Area Elementary & Junior High Schools
Stillwater Area High School
Stillwater Area Public Schools
The Phipps Center for the Arts
White Pine Festival
Zoom Productions

Civic

American Legion Auxiliary 121
Amery Public Library Foundation
Arcola Mills Historic Foundation
ArtReach Alliance
Big Brother Big Sisters
BRIDGE for Youth with Disabilities
Cancer Legal Line
Friends of Freedom Park, Inc.
Funders Network for Smart Growth & Livable Communities
Hudson Fire Department/Lions Golf Scramble
LAMAR - A Historic Center for Progressive Community
New Richmond Area Community Foundation

PATH Wisconsin
Pierce County Historical Association
Polk County Historical Society
Refuge Farms, Inc.
River Falls Community Arts Base, Inc.
River Falls Lions Club
River Falls Public Library
Spring Valley Education Foundation
St. Croix Valley Restorative Justice
Stillwater Public Library
The Phipps Center for the Arts
University of Wisconsin River Falls
St. Croix Institute for Sustainable Community Development
Valley Outreach
Washington County Historical Society
Webb Lake Volunteer Fire Department

Education

Columbia University & Joe Stormont
Cotter College
Creighton University/ILAC
Education Foundation of Hudson
Gustavus Adolphus College
Hill Murray School
Hope Academy
Hudson High School Senior All Night Party
Hudson High School
Hudson Sidekicks Booster Club
Independent School District #834
Midwest Archives Conference
Partnership Plan for Stillwater Area Schools
St. Olaf College & Elizabeth Lampman
St. Thomas Academy
Society of American Archivists
Trinity Lutheran School
University of Minnesota Foundation
University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
University of Wisconsin-River Falls & William Scholz
University of Wisconsin-River Falls Foundation
University of St. Thomas & Maggie Lopac

Environment

Carpenter St. Croix Valley Nature Center
Friends of the St. Croix Headwaters
Kinnickinnic River Land Trust
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Minnesota Environmental Partner
Minnesota Land Trust
MMC Associates
Nature Conservancy of MN
St. Croix Festival Theatre
St. Croix National Scenic Riverway
Standing Cedars Land Conservancy
Superior Vocations Center Inc.
Token Media
Tree Trust
Willow River OWLs Inc.
Wisconsin Association of Lakes
Women's Environmental Institute

Health

Alzheimer's Association
Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota
Free Clinic Pierce & St. Croix
Gillette Children's Foundation
Hudson Health Fund of SCVCF
Hudson Memorial Health Foundation
Kilimanjaro Children's Hospital
Kinnickinnic Health Foundation
Lakeview Foundation
Lutheran Braille Evangelism Association
Mayo Foundation
Osceola Medical Center
United Hospital Foundation

Human Services

American Cancer Society
American Red Cross St. Croix Valley
Avanti Challenge Camp
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Boy Scouts of America Northern Star Council
BRIDGE for Youth with Disabilities
Community Action
Courage Center
Croixdale
Ezekiel Food Shelf
FamilyMeans Fund of SCVCF
Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley
Friendship Ventures
Grace Place
HSI-Human Services, Inc. Hudson Area Senior Center
Hudson Hockey Association
Hudson Memorial Health Foundation
Hudson School District-Gateway
Junior Achievement of Hudson
Kinship of Polk County
Lutheran Braille Evangelism Association
Northeast Residence, Inc.

Off the Beaten Path
Olu's Home, Inc.
Operation Help
PATH
Polk County Special Olympics
Race Track Chaplaincy of America, Inc.
River Falls Community Food Pantry
River Falls Food Shelf
Salvation Army
Salvation Army Headquarters
Salvation Army/St. Paul Citadel
Second Harvest Heartland
Sharing & Caring Hands Inc.
Sierra Club Foundation
Simpson Housing Services
Smile Train
Southeast Area YMCA
SOS Players
Special Olympics MN
St. Croix Valley Habitat for Humanity
St. Croix Valley Restorative Justice
St. Croix Valley Sexual Assault Response Team
St. Croix Valley YMCA
Stillwater Sunrise Rotary Club
Surreia's Place, Inc.
Trade Lake Camp
Turningpoint for Victims of Domestic Violence
United Way Food Resources
United Way of Washington County East
United Way St. Croix Valley
UWezo International, Inc.
Valley Senior Services Alliance
Washington County Public Health Department
West CAP
YMCA Camp St. Croix
YMCA of River Falls
Young Life St. Croix Valley
Young Life Twin Cities Urban
Young Life White Bear Lake/Mahtomedi
Youth Service Bureau, Inc.

Humane-Animal

Animal Humane Society
Arnell Memorial Humane Society, Inc.
Boone Area Humane Society
Brown County Humane Society
Dodge County Humane Society
Fond du Lac Humane Society
Friends of the Shelter, Inc.
Grant County Humane Society
Green Lake Area Animal Shelter, Inc.
Hiawatha Animal Humane Society
Humane Society of Burnett County

Humane Society of Freeborn County
 Humane Society of Goodhue County, Inc.
 Humane Society of Kandiyohi County
 Humane Society of Swift County
 Humane Society of the Lakes
 Jasper County Animal Rescue League & Humane Society
 Kenosha County Humane Society, doing business as Safe Harbor
 Lakes Area Humane Society
 Marion County Humane Society
 Mesabi Humane Society
 Northwoods Humane Society

Ocooch Mountain Humane Society
 Pepin County Humane Society
 Pope County Humane Society
 Rice County Humane Society, Inc.
 Sheboygan County Humane Society
 South Wood County Humane Society
 St. Croix Animal Friends
 Stevens Community Humane Society
 TLC Canine Center
 Tri-County Humane Society
 Washington County Humane Society
 Wisconsin Humane Society

Other
 Twin Cities Public Television
 Minnesota Public Radio

Religious
 Ascension Episcopal Church
 Bethlehem Lutheran Church
 Christian Community Campus Foundation
 Church of St. Michael
 Faith Community Church
 First Baptist Church
 First Congregational United Church
 Hope Lutheran Church
 International Gospel Outreach Networks

Peace Lutheran Church
 Prince of Peace Catholic Church
 Sacred Heart Catholic Church
 Sacred Heart School
 Serve India Ministries
 Shepherd of the Valley
 St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
 St. Mary's Episcopal Church of Basswood Grove
 St. Patrick Catholic Parish
 St. Paul Lutheran Church
 St. Paul's Episcopal Church
 St. Peter's Lutheran Church
 Trinity Lutheran Church
 Union Gospel Mission
 Voice of the Martyrs

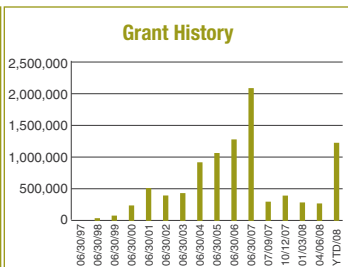
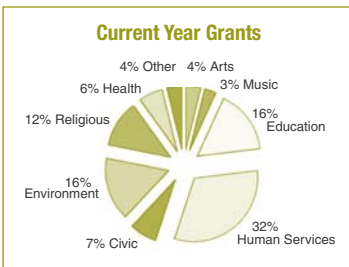
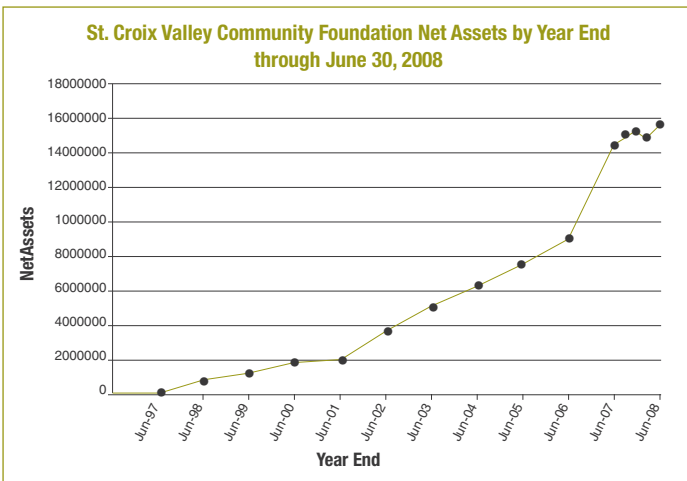
Competitive Grants Applications The following grant programs are competitive and open for proposal applications:

- Valley Arts Initiative
- Music Education
- Nonprofit Management Assistance

Grants are limited to organizations in Washington and Chisago Counties in Minnesota and Polk, Pierce, and St. Croix Counties in Wisconsin. Unless otherwise specified, organizations must have their 501(c)(3) status from the IRS. Other limitations may apply.

Details regarding grant guidelines and application processes can be found on the St. Croix Valley Community Foundation's website at www.scvcf.org or by calling (715) 386-9490. Questions from interested applicants are welcome.

Financial Information



Asset Comparison Chart		
June 30, 2008		June 30, 2007
\$15,642,825	Net Assets	\$14,340,342
	Revenue & Support	
	Contributions	6,112,051
3,294,351	Earnings	
472,793	Realized Gains	397,550
(1,086,317)	Unrealized	956,648
(61)	Other	182
214,559	Fees	175,735
2,895,324	Total Revenue	7,642,166
	Grants*	1,624,728
889,503	Fund Expense	186,707
214,942	Operating Expense	427,581
488,519	Total Expenses	2,239,016
1,592,694		
15,642,825	Net Assets (June 30)	14,340,342
	Investments	14,353,882
15,659,656	Cash & other assets	31,442
18,660	Liabilities	(44,982)
(35,492)		

The amounts listed above are unaudited. An audit report and 990 tax returns are available upon request.

*does not include intrafund gifts and grants

2007-2008 Donor List

Mike Addy & Nancy Johnson
AM Center for Philanthropy
American Transmission Co., LLC
Ameriprise Financial
Amery Community Foundation,
Inc.
Amery Regional Medical Center
Hugh J. Andersen Foundation
Katherine B. Andersen Fund of
The Saint Paul Foundation
Burnell & Jeanne Anderson
Connie L. Anderson
Georgiana L. Anderson
Loretta Jane Anderson
Paul L Anderson Fund of SCVCF
Anonymous
Charles & Peggy Arnason Fund
of SCVCF
Charles & Peggy Arnason
Wayne & Julie Asp

DuWayne & Patricia Bakke
Amy & Adam Bast
Donald & Cynthia Bauerfeld
Debra & David Beaudet
Arba-Della Beck
M.T. Becker
Paul G. Belair
John & Kristine Belanger
Jon & Metta Belisle
Catharine N. Bell
Ronald & Jacquelyn Belschner
Carolyn Benepe
Richard & Susan Benish
John & Barbara Benson
F.P & R.M. Berndt
Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Northwestern Wisconsin
Sandra & William Blackley
Edwin & Susan Boeve
Robert Bowen
Braden Construction, Inc.
Bradshaw Celebration of Life
Fund of SCVCF
Jim & Jayne Bradshaw
David & Sandy Brandt Fund
of SCVCF
David & Sandy Brandt
John & Theresa Brine
Mark & Carolyn Briol
Bristol Ridge Golf Course
Brookman Family Fund of SCVCF
David J. Brown CPA
T. Mary Brownson
David & Ann Bucheck

Brian & Kathleen Buchholz
Coral & Roland Buchman
Norman & Donna Buchta
Peter Kyle Burke
Burnett Medical Center
Lois Burri
Bush Foundation
Barry & Lynne Butenhoff

April M. Davis Campbell
William Campbell
Sam & Teresa Cari
Roger & Kathleen Carlson
William & Sherrie Carlson
Carpenter St. Croix Valley
Nature Center
Thomas & Bonnie Carroll
Orwin & Anita Carter
Marilyn R. Cathcart
Rexford & Lynn Cattanaach
Paul Charles
Chisago Lakes Area Rotary
Colleen & Terence Clarkin
Robert & Shari Clifford
William & Annette Cook
Paul & Rebecca Copenhaver
John Coughlin & Mary Beth
Arthaud
Mary Ellen Coyle
Elton & Marian Cunningham

Richard & Shirene Dahl
Roger J. Dahlke
Dick Dart
Culver & Judith Davis, Jr.
Michael & Linda Denoma
DeSimone Family Fund of
The Saint Paul Foundation
Allan & Diane Dettmann
Charlton Dietz
Janis A. Donnelly
Patricia & Daniel A. Draxler

Eagle Valley Bank, N.A.
Julie G. Ehlinger
Emerald Hill Farm
Jean & Brett Emmons
Enbridge Energy, Limited
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Shannon Hooley Enright &
Michael Enright
Tim & Vallie Ericson
Heidi Smith Erspamer

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First State Bank & Trust
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Fraternal Order of Eagles No. 94
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Library
Friends of Perch Lake
Raymond & Margherita Fronczak
Funders Network for Smart Growth
& Livable Communities

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Chris & Connie Galvin
Lyman Geary
Susan K. Gilbert
James H. & Mary R. Gillespie
GivingNet, Inc.
Shirley & David Glas
Bruce & Judy E. Goldstrand
David & Katherine Griffith
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Heidi A. Gruber Guardianship
Gary W. Gullikson & Carol M. Tolle
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Ken & Lynn Heiser
William & Michelle Heiting
Sally & Lance Hermann
Heywood, Cari & Anderson, S.C.
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Hudson Daybreak Rotary
Hudson Health Foundation, Inc.
Hudson Physicians
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Jeanine & Paul Huot
Huss Foundation
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Linda Jacobson & Bill Warner
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 SIT Investment Associates
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 St. Croix Valley HOG Chapter, Inc.
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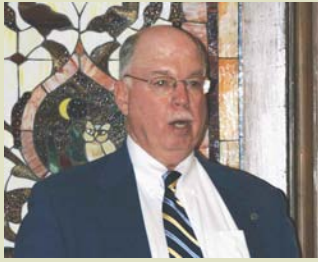
Youth Service Bureau, Inc.

Jeffrey & Patricia Zais
 Mary E. Zorn & Troy Wilhelmson



This 2008 oil painting by Leslie Bowman features Foundation Board Chair Gretchen Stein as she paints "St. Croix River Inspiration," which is featured on the cover of this annual report.

Conversations of the Valley



Dr. David B. Laird presenting at the May 2008 Conversations of the Valley.

The St. Croix Valley Community Foundation was proud to sponsor another successful year of Conversations of the Valley. This public affairs lecture series was developed to help strengthen community connections in the St. Croix Valley and to facilitate community discussion around a broad range of current affairs issues. The completion of its 2007-08 program season marked the 5th year of programs.

First State Bank and Trust provided financial support for the 2007-08 programs; its third year of sponsorship. The luncheons were held at the Lowell Inn in Stillwater. Attendance ranged from 65 to over 125 people and attracted participants from both Minnesota and Wisconsin. Lynn Steiner served as program director and advisory committee chair. Other advisory committee members were Pat Benson, Judy Duffy, Joanne Gustafson, Rita Lawson, Erv Neff, Lynn Shafer, Kevin Shields, Peg Leutele, Jane Stevenson, Sally Hermann, and Margi Miller.

2007-08 Programs

“The Middle East: Any Good News?,” Professor Michael Barnett, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

“How Biofuels May Starve the Planet,” C. Ford Runge, University of Minnesota

“The Writing Life,” Lorna Landvik, author of *The View From Mount Joy*

“The Arts Mean Business: Mobilizing an Arts and Cultural Development Strategy,” Ann Markusen, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

“Pluripotent Stem Cells and Human Disease,” Dr. Meri Firpo, University of Minnesota

“From Madagascar to Microscopes: The Cutting Edge of Dinosaur Science,” Dr. Kristi Curry Rogers, Macalester College

“American Exceptionalism: Presidential Nominations and 2008,” Professor Lawrence Jacobs, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

“While We Were Sleeping: Worldwide Competition in Higher Education,” Dr. David B. Laird, Minnesota Private College Council



St. Croix Valley Community Foundation
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