



Your community. Your legacy.

NewsLight

A newsletter for contributors and friends of the Virginia Community Foundation

Fall/Winter 2008

Vol. 13, No. 2

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NewsLight

NewsLight is the official semi-annual publication of the Virginia Community Foundation.

Board Members

- Donna Leese, Chair
- Loy Gotham, Vice Chair
- Brandon Seppala, 2nd Vice Chair
- Nancee Norri, Secretary
- Keith Harvey, Treasurer
- Micheal Appelwick
- Chris Bialke
- Brittany Chopp
- Rudy Harvey
- John Kohlhase
- Erik Peterson
- Deanne Polski
- Robert Prittinen
- Brenda Suihkonen

Linda Niskanen, Executive Director
Deb Luoma, Administrative Assistant

Questions, comments or donations may be sent to :
Virginia Community Foundation,
P.O. Box 559, Virginia, MN 55792
218-749-8239

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www.virginiafoundation.com

First Virginia Mural Inspires Plans for More

Virginia's first mural featuring community icons, Hartley and Westley Koski was unveiled in early July, just before The Great Virginia Get Together. Inspired by a positive response from the community and the artistry of the mural, long-time friend of the foundation, Marieta Johnson, is leading a committee whose goals include a second and possibly a third mural. If plans proceed as hoped, the second mural will be installed in early summer of 2009.

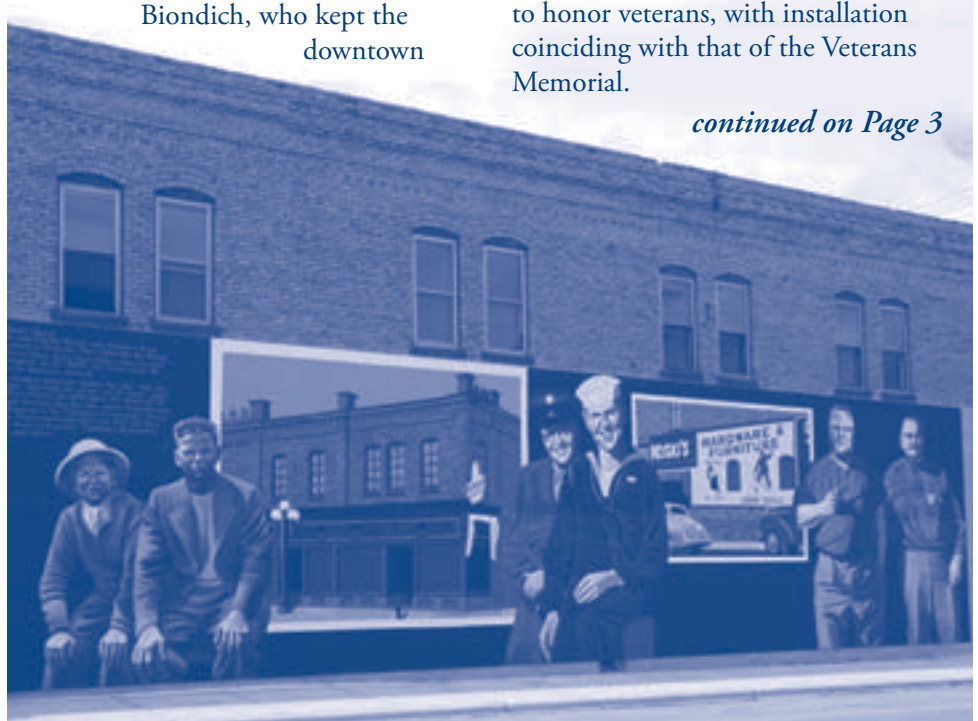
The theme of the second mural is already defined to be a tribute to Marty Biondich, who kept the downtown

streets clean for many years and who provided a friendly smile for those who frequented baseball fields and downtown

If plans proceed as hoped, the second mural will be installed in early summer of 2009.

stores. Looking further down the road, a third mural is contemplated for 2010 to honor veterans, with installation coinciding with that of the Veterans Memorial.

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Message from the Chair



This past summer, the Virginia Community Foundation was honored to sponsor the Great Virginia Get Together. It was heart-warming to hear stories

from past residents about the memories, friends and family that had touched their lives here in Virginia. Their recollections of events, landmarks, and even VHS game highlights are as vivid to them today as they were many years ago. However, as much as we wish for things to remain the same, change is inevitable.

The Virginia Community Foundation's mission is dedicated to building the health and vitality of

our community. Earnings from the Foundation's permanent endowment are distributed through community enrichment grants. Our mission has not changed, but the steps we take to achieve this goal will. The annual "Fall Fundraiser," formerly called "Turn On Your Lights," was handled differently this year. We elected not to canvass the entire community this fall as we have in the past. While the canvass has been a successful event for the Foundation, the Board took into consideration the safety and busy schedules of our volunteers, and decided a change was necessary. We hope you will continue to support the foundation through your donations.

On behalf of the Foundation, thank you to all our wonderful volunteers that give of their time and talent to benefit

the Foundation. A special thank you also is extended to Carol Sundquist, Chair of the Great Virginia Get Together and to Marieta Johnson for spearheading the mural project. Their vision, dedication and commitment to the Foundation and to Virginia are truly inspiring.

The 2007 audit of the Virginia Community Foundation is complete and a financial summary is included in this newsletter. As you look over the financial report, be proud that the collective effort is having a big impact on the endowment and our community. As the holidays draw near, we hope you'll consider a memorial or a named gift to the Foundation. Just imagine how many more positive changes can be made in our community for future generations as the endowment grows.

New Fund Established to Revitalize Downtown

Many Virginia alumni, visiting their hometown for the first time in many years during the summer's Great Virginia Get together, were shocked and dismayed to see the condition of our beloved Chestnut Street. The once beautiful main street was now bristling with empty lots, burned out facades and empty storefronts.

The good news is there is growing resolve and real momentum to begin the process of revitalization.

The current blight of Virginia's downtown has occurred over many years for a number of complex reasons. The bad news is the problems have become pervasive, and the cost for reversing the skid may be beyond the ability of our local business community and City



government to address on their own.

The good news is there is growing resolve and real momentum to begin the process of revitalization. Not the least of these efforts is the Virginia Community Foundation's decision to create a new fund – the Downtown Revitalization Non-endowed Fund - with the sole purpose of supporting revitalization. The fund will be used to facilitate efforts such as planning and

vacant lot development on Chestnut Street. Due to the urgency of the problems facing downtown, the fund is not endowed, meaning your gift can be made immediately available to assist with downtown initiatives.

Perhaps the most important role the Foundation can play in revitalization efforts is as a catalyst for positive

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First Virginia Mural Inspires Plans for More

To raise funds for murals, the Virginia Community Foundation board has set up a designated fund. All funds donated to this cause will be used to commission artists and purchase materials. Many in-kind contributions will also be needed for each mural.

Johnson's inspiration for the murals was the Mural Walk in Ashland, Wis. In the course of over a dozen years, community volunteers commissioned artists Susan Martinsen and Kelly Merridith to produce about one mural each year so that now they have as many as 14 in Ashland alone. The artists have been involved in over 40 murals throughout the Midwest.

"The artistry in the Ashland murals was impressive, especially when I was able to see the murals in person. After discussing the details of the overall project with the artists, it occurred to me that we can do this in Virginia too. After sharing the idea with local community leaders, it was apparent that the idea of putting up murals would be well supported," said Johnson.

The dedication on the mural dedicated to Hartley and Westley Koski states: "The Koski Brothers were born and raised in Virginia and ultimately took over the family business, Koski Hardware, which was opened by their father in the 1920s. Upon the death of the second of them, their estate, in excess of a million dollars, was donated to the Virginia Community Foundation

with an expressed wish that the funds be used to improve Virginia's downtown, parks and lakes."

According to foundation board member, Brandon Seppala, "What better way is there to enhance the spirit of community and the quality of life in Virginia than to honor two people that believed in the future of Virginia enough to leave their estate to its improvement while simultaneously



Marty Biondich

adding beauty, art, and attraction to Virginia and the downtown area."

The first step to funding the first mural was to secure grants from the Virginia Community Foundation and the State Sesquicentennial Commission. "We were also able to gain support from the city of Virginia, and secure several

private donations to complete funding for the project," Johnson said.

Many in-kind contributions were made to transport and install the mural, including the support of Wayne Transports, Hoover Construction, Pohaki Lumber, Lenci Enterprises, Jed Hejda, Jr., Timothy Norman, Lauren Nelson, Brad Saxhaug, Adam Saxhaug, Ben Greene, Ted Kesanen, Kurt Kesanen and Bill Jones. Tom and Amy Martinich, owners of La Cocina and Cantina and Tommy's Rainy Lake Saloon & Restaurant, donated the space on the side of the building.

The Mural Committee has efforts well underway for Virginia's second mural. Committee members are Chris Bialke, Alicia Cope, Harry Lamppa, Marieta Johnson, Nevada Littlewolf, Deb Luoma, Lauren Nelson, Carol Sundquist, and Roz Whalen,

To help raise money for the Marty Biondich Mural, the committee will be selling faux bricks that will be part of the mural. For \$50.00, contributors can have a name of their choosing displayed on a brick as a contributor to the mural. If you would like to contribute to the mural effort and/or purchase a brick(s), please send your check to the Virginia Community Foundation Mural Fund and indicate the name(s) to be displayed.

If you're interested in supporting the Mural effort in other ways, please contact Marieta Johnson at 218 741-1226.

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New Fund Established to Revitalize Downtown

change. According to Vacant Lots Committee Chair, Brandon Seppala, "we are currently meeting with the City to reach a formal agreement that will enable the Foundation to actively pursue certain revitalization initiatives where the City may be in a position to mitigate any potential liabilities".

Mr. Seppala also foresees a role for the Foundation in assisting the City with a vital planning process for the downtown and lakes areas for which the City has received a \$50,000 matching grant from St Louis County.

These are positive first steps, but there is much to be done. The

Foundation needs your help to begin to turn things around and begin the difficult and costly work of revitalization. We need your donation, or your time, or your expertise. Please contact us at 218-749-8239 or by e-mail to director@virginiafoundation.com to find out how you can help.

Hometown Keepsakes

Have you been looking for a unique gift for that special someone? Are you tired of giving gift cards? Anyone with ties to Virginia would appreciate a beautiful photograph of Virginia's historic snow-covered Fifth Avenue. The 11 x 14 inch, black and white photo by Chuck Pottsmith is available for purchase from the Virginia Community Foundation for \$20.

Blue lapel pins in the shape of Minnesota with white "Home" lettering in Virginia's location are available for \$10. Show your pride in Virginia . . . get one today.

Unique ballpoint pens crafted by Virginia High School graduate Fred Fraboni (class of '39), are available in a wide variety of wood styles or in acrylic at a price of \$25.

Offers are being accepted on a hunting theme art print by Virginia artist, Tom Anderson and wildlife prints by local artist Albin Zaverl.

The photos, pins, artwork and pens are available at the Foundation office at 519 Chestnut Street in Virginia.



Shipping and handling for the photos is available for an additional \$6. For more information on any of the keepsakes, please contact us by phone at 218-749-8239 or by email at director@virginiafoundation.com

Range Respite Memory Care Planned

Soon family caregivers will have a new resource of respite care for loved ones with dementia. With support from a Virginia Community Foundation grant to purchase needed furnishings, Range Respite will be expanding their services to include a memory care group. The dementia care program will meet a growing need for respite care in our community.





VIRGINIA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
Statements of Activities
Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006

| | 2007 | 2006 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| Total Assets | \$ 2,348,309 | \$ 2,180,086 |
| Revenues: | | |
| Contributions - | | |
| Foundation Fundraisers | \$ 82,428 | \$ 63,254 |
| Foundation Donations | \$ 38,650 | \$ 99,885 |
| Blue Pride Fund Donations | \$ 12,781 | \$ 7,035 |
| Virginia Public Library Fund Donations | \$ 2,105 | \$ 400 |
| Virginia Educational Fund Donations | \$ 13,200 | \$ - |
| Special Event Revenue - | | |
| Golf Tournament | \$ - | \$ 16,906 |
| Investment Returns | \$ 84,969 | \$ 207,665 |
| Misc Income | \$ 34 | \$ - |
| Net Assets Released from Restrictions | \$ 14,206 | \$ 10,231 |
| Total Revenue, Gains & Other Support | \$ 248,373 | \$ 405,376 |
| Expenses: | | |
| Program Services - | | |
| Grants | \$ 70,785 | \$ 46,989 |
| Costs of Direct Benefits to Donors | \$ 875 | \$ 6,170 |
| Management and General | \$ 22,906 | \$ 20,182 |
| Fundraising | \$ 49,294 | \$ 33,480 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 143,860 | \$ 106,821 |
| | | |
| Change in Unrestricted Net Assets | \$ 104,513 | \$ 298,555 |
| Temporarily Restricted Net Assets | | |
| Contributions | \$ 53,700 | \$ 4,060 |
| Special Event Revenue - | | |
| Blue Pride Dances | \$ 6,328 | \$ 6,079 |
| Great Virginia Get Together | \$ 11,960 | \$ - |
| Net assets released from restrictions | \$ (14,206) | \$ (10,231) |
| Change in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets | \$ 57,782 | \$ (92) |
| | | |
| Change in Net Assets | \$ 162,295 | \$ 298,463 |
| Net Assets, Beginning of Year | \$ 2,171,442 | \$ 1,872,979 |
| Net Assets, End of Year | \$ 2,333,737 | \$ 2,171,442 |



*Wine, Cheese and a
“toast” of Thanks!*

The Virginia Community Foundation recently recognized the commitment of the many volunteers to the **Great Virginia Get Together**, an event that will long be remembered by alumni and the entire community. The evening was an opportunity to thank Carol Sundquist, Barb Baldrice and the Committee Chairs for planning and executing a tremendous event for this community. Many laughs could be heard along with heartfelt thanks and cheers for the funds raised and the economic impact. Carol was awarded the Foundation's signature lamppost in honor of her time, talents and dedication while chairing this worthwhile event. It was a beautiful way to bring the event to completion. The Foundation wishes to say “thank you” to each and every individual, business or participant that shared in such a special event that will not long be forgotten.



Barb Baldrice and Carol Sundquist

Memories of the Great Virginia Get Together

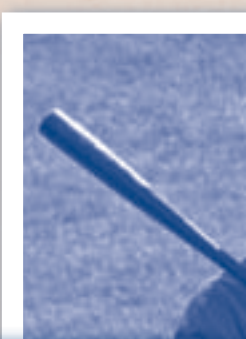


The “Queen City” was truly celebrated in style during the weeklong Great Virginia Get Together. The town was decked out for the occasion with storefronts filled with Virginia memorabilia and a brand new downtown mural completed just in time for the celebration.

The event got under way as people came to “Celebration Central” at the Miners Memorial Building to get registered and led right in to the opening ceremonies held at Olcott Park. Soon, neighborhood picnics, class get-together’s, an alumni baseball game, garage bands and a special lumberjack show were off and running. There truly was something for everyone!

Virginia’s long standing musical talents tugged at everyone’s heartstrings with a band and choir concert which welcomed back many alumni to participate. A blast-from-the-past, Steve’s Place, was the hit of the week. Opening their doors and selling out in 2 hours on the first day of business says just how successful this project truly was. Fun was had and new memories were made right up until the closing ceremonies, and the event was a huge success.

The “Queen City” shined like a jewel, and everyone was happy to be home again!



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Contributors to the Virginia Community Foundation

(contributions since our last newsletter)

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| American Family Insurance | Connie Germann | Dennis & Shelly Lindberg | Services |
| Tom Anderson | Colleen Gerzin | Dr. Michael & Mary Linnemann | Americo Sacchetti |
| Andrews Camera | James (Mick) Giblin | Kathryn Lundsten | Sally & Richard Seck |
| Anonymous | Susan Glesne | Ray & Deb Luoma | Seppi Bros. Concrete Products |
| Lorrayne Aysta | Loy Gotham | Patrick & Laurie Mackey | Curtis Sharp |
| Jack Barrett | Geraldine Gradisher | Walt & Sue Malec | John Shoden |
| Bella Spa | Grant Construction | Rick & Nancy Marwick | Ron Shoden |
| Ben Franklin | Jim Grierson | Mesabi Sign | Short Stop Convenience Stores |
| Richard & Judith Benkusky | Janet & Chilton (Sandy) Hagan | Gloria Mihevc | Gracia Simpson |
| Marshall & Dorothy Bergerson | Spencer Hahne | Minnesota Pastime | Bob & Beth Skalko |
| Chris & Alyson Bialke | Keith & Laurie Harvey | Minnesota Twins | Mike & Vicki Skubic |
| Lillian Bonkosky | Rudy & Ross Harvey | Linda Myklebust | Kathy & Jim Smrekar |
| Carolyn Bowman | Chris & Tammy Heine | Norma Nekich | Spectrum Community Health |
| David & Cathy Brenner | Dennis & Carole Hendricks | Brenley & Craig Nelson | Anton & Patricia Spraitz, Jr |
| Melanie Bridges | Dave & Phyllis Hendrickson | Gail Nemanic | Starkovich Distributing |
| Michael & Deborah Carey | Phyllis & Kelly Herstad | Nancy Nichols-Goldstein | State Farm Insurance |
| Bunny Challis | Elizabeth Hoefflerle | Chuck & Linda Niskanen | Mary Strukel |
| Eunice Chittero | Hoover Construction | Bobby & Nancee Norri | Super One Foods |
| Class of 1952 | Iron Range Rehab Center | Norri Distributing | Suzie's Sassy Balloons |
| David Cline | Chris & Lori Ismil | Northeast Technical Services | Taconite Tire |
| Coca-Cola Bottling Co | Marlene Jarvi | Northern State Bank | Tall Pines Ice |
| Coldwell Banker | Bruce & Jo Johnson | Northgate Café | Tom Truax |
| Jeff & Kerry Collie | Chipper & Marieta Johnson | Northland Foundation | John & Judie Trunzo |
| Compudyne | Gail & Tom Johnson | Bud & Marilyn Ostlund | UBS Financial |
| Brent Robinson & Alicia Cope | Hugo Johnson | Charles & Marjorie Ostrov | Up North Title |
| Cope & Peterson Law Office | Maurice & Carol Johnson | John & Susan Pearsall | US Bank |
| Country Insurance | Peter & Colette Johnson | Marjorie Pearsall | Virginia Coop Credit Union |
| Dale & Kathryn Cremers | Tom & Kate Johnson | George Pepelnjak | Virginia Floral Co. |
| Culbert Realty & Appraisal | Katherine Jones | Perpich TV & Music, Inc. | Virginia Golf Course Pro Shop |
| Lois Curry | Kap n' Kork | Erik & Carol Peterson | Virginia Regional Medical Center |
| Sheldon & Carol Damberg | Judie Kauchick | H. Jeffrey & Nancy Peterson | Rudolph Voxland |
| James & Marylin Dasseos | Mike & Nancy Kearney | Mark & Patty Phillips | W.A. Fisher Printing |
| Dave's Pizza | Peter & Kathleen Kearney | Michael & Rozanne Plotnik | Walker, Giroux & Hahne |
| Gail & Berwyn Davies | Ken Waschke Auto Plaza | Todd & Jennifer Pontinen | Wells Fargo |
| Ann Dondlinger | Carol & Rodney King | James & Polly Podpeskar | Roz & Bob Whalen |
| DSGW Architect Inc | John & Lynn Kohlase | Pohaki Lumber | Leslie Whitlinger |
| Duluth Clinic - Virginia | Richard Kohlase | Queen City Federal | Wilderness at Fortune Bay |
| Natalie Erickson | Kraus Anderson Construction | Sarah Ralston | Debbie Wilkowski |
| Firelight Galeries | Mike & Judy Krebsbach | Range Reliable Agency | Michael Winter |
| Fortune Bay | Rose Marie Lacher | Donna Reishus | Woodland Urology |
| Joe & Susan Froehlingsdorf | William & Carol Lahti | David Risku | |
| Ray & Barb Garni | Lake Country Power | Rosemary Rowell | |
| Generation W | Land of the Loon Committee | Christine Rudy | |
| Luan Gentilini | Mark & Donna Leese | Ryan-Kasner-Bialke Financial | |

Named Gifts

(since our last newsletter)

Bob & Barbara Baldrica
In honor of Elaine Annear's 90th birthday

Elizabeth Bonner
In honor of Esther Salmi's 90th birthday

Georgene Tomazin
In honor of Dr. Audrey Baumgartner Dorfman

Phil & Mary Troutwine
*In honor of Tom Baldrica,
Virginia Hall of Fame Inductee*

Phil & Mary Troutwine
*In honor of Carol Sundquist & Barbara
Baldrica, Chair and Co-Chair of the
Great Virginia Get-Together*

Virginia Public Library Fund Contributions

(since our last newsletter)

Kathleen Cina
In memory of Dorothy Petroskey

Library Employees
In memory of Dorothy Petroskey

Caroline Olson
In memory of Dorothy Petroskey

Marcia Poarch

Dr. Isaac & Vivian Prlina

John & Virginia Trucano
*In memory of Martha Rukavina
and William Somero*

Virginia Study Club

Virginia Educational Fund

(since our last newsletter)

Richard & Marlys Olson
In memory of Bill Somero

John & Susan Pearsall

Chad & Kathy Seppala
In memory of Martha Rukavina

Don Wicklund
In memory of Helen Wicklund

Virginia Mural Fund

(since fund was established June 19, 2008)

Luan Gentilini
Marieta & Chipper Johnson
Deb & Ray Luoma

Downtown

Revitalization Fund

(since fund was established June 19, 2008)

Anonymous Donor

Blue Pride Fund

(since November 2007 Blue Pride newsletter)

Anonymous donor

Bruce Benkusky

Chris & Alyson Bialke

Norma Bodovinac
In memory of John Bodovinac

Steve & Jennifer Bonner
Holiday gift in honor of Elizabeth Bonner

Steve & Jennifer Bonner
*In memory of Dan Beystrom,
VHS Center Ice Man, Class of '71*

Mary Brady
In memory of Helen Wicklund

Broughton Group
In memory of Pat Foschi

Alicia Cope & Brent Robinson

Ed Cremers

Lois Curry
In memory of George Curry

Dave's Pizza

Myra DeByle

Loisann Eaton
In memory of John Eaton, class of 1939

Bob Eskola

Steve & Deb Falkowski

Remo & Barbara Garni

Siiri Gilness, Katie Finc, and Sara Ronkainen
In memory of Jessica Ann Lishinski

Joseph & Joyce (Johnson) Giovanoni
In honor of Sandy (Cron) Johnson

Bill & Carolyn Glumack
In memory of Bill Mattson, class of 1958

Robert & Donna Haapala

Frank Haege
In memory of his father, Art Haege

Patricia Hamalainen
*In memory of Les Hamalainen, class of '44;
Elton Thayer, class of '49, Robert (Bob) Leiviska*

Ilze Ibrahim

Ronald & Janus Jacobson

Paul & Sally Johnson
In honor of Class of 1959

Peter & Colette Johnson
Holiday gift in honor of Jenny & Mike Lundin

David & Darlene Karakas

Jeremiah & Pamela Kearney

Bud & Tammy Kishel

Gene & Brynhild Kishel
*In honor of Eric Kishel and Karen Kishel
Alder – athletes*

Doris & Louis Knoll

Joseph Kraker

Bob & Pat Krebsbach
In memory of Francis Spencer

Jeanne Lamont & Nancy Ludwig
In memory of brother John "Ang" Angelo, class of '60

Patrick & Emily Lanin

Arthur Lehtonen

Greg & Shirley Lenci
Bill & Deb McCormick
In memory of Karen Walden

John & Tracy McMorrow

Dr. Paul & Daisy (Walkama) Nelson
*In memory of Florence Konu and Fred Lind,
class of 1937*

Caroline Olson
In memory of Classmates of 1949

Floyd & Betty Olson

Oral & Maxillofacial Surgical Associates

Darryl & Diane Peterson

H. Jeffrey & Nancy Peterson

Kevin & Beth Pietrini

Rodney & Judy Politano
In memory of Steven Plotnik

Range Driver Training

Ed & Cora Remus

Bob & Donna Ribich

David Risku

Marion Rivard
In memory of Hershel Cope

Mary Lou Roskoski
In memory of Harry Roskoski, class of 1943

Robert & Margaret Roskoski

Angelo & Kay Sacchetti

Wallace & Shirley Schoeb

Karl & Mary Lou Sharp

Ron & Sandi Shoden

Starkovich Distributing

Paul & Annalisa Starkovich

Georgene Tomazin
In honor of Majorettes 1960-62

Rudolph Voxland

W.A. Fisher Company

Don & Karen Welander
In memory of Bill Geiselman

Crown Jewel Donors

(Cumulative giving levels attained since our last newsletter)

Diamond Givers \$5,000 & above

Mike & Debbie Appelwick • Stan & Carrie Bezek • Margaret Kajala • Kurt & Carol Sundquist

Emerald Givers \$1,000 to \$4,999

Bob & Barbara Baldrica
Bill & Gladys Cavers
Clayton (Toby) Erickson
Louis & Doris Knoll
Sharon Lager
Judy Norri
Jim & Jeanne Prittinen
Brandon & Heather Seppala
Dr. Don & Joann Sipola

Ruby Givers \$500 to \$999

Lori Angelo
John & Gayle Dibley
Wayne & Waivie Edwards
Fred & Lavonne Fraboni
Dave & Toni Kralich
Bob & Pat Krebsbach
Northern Engine & Supply
Bob & Elaine Prittinen
Dan & Jennifer Rabideaux
Chad & Kathy Seppala

Memorials

(since our last newsletter)

In memory of Bill Somero
The Harry J. Anderson Family, Bob & Barbara Baldrica, Wayne & Bernadine Christiansen, Ed & Cora Hawkinson, Dennis & Carole Hendricks, Dave & Phyllis Hendrickson, John & Catherine Huss, John & Lynn Kohlhasse, Richard Kohlhasse, Sharon Kolari, Dave, Mary & Matt Mohar, JoAnn & Robert Mohn, Mark & Alison Muhich, George & Marlene Munig, Marilyn Nelson, Russell & Lane O'Connell, Lorraine Sullivan, George & Mary Yapel, and Anthony & Diane Zavodnik

Lori K. Angelo
In memory of John Angelo

Anonymous
In memory of Harvey Aluni and Martha Rukavina

Phil & Eleanor Anshus
In memory of Marguerite Lenont McNeil

Brian & Kathy Bachman, Gary & Diana Bachman, John & Becky Bachman, Paul & Renee Sandstrom, and Lloyd & Donna Bachman
In memory of Eleanor Nelson

Bob & Barbara Baldrica
In memory of Ed Poupard, Phyllis Tekautz, Anteo Bocchi, Bea McKenzie Longpre, Don Gentilini, and Joyce Fleming

Norma Benkusky
In memory of William Benkusky

Norma Bodovinac
In memory of John Bodovinac

Thomas or Cynthia Bredow
In memory of Helen Wicklund

Anna Mae Dlouhy
In memory of Ellen Larson Picek, class 1945

Lucille Fiola
In memory of Joyce Fleming

Jack & Carolyn Gentilini
In memory of Don Gentilini

Colleen Gerzin
In memory of Bea McKenzie Longpre

Michael & Amy Gresser
In memory of Bea Longpre

Mike & Joan Gresser and Tom & Jodi Vallez
In memory of Bea Longpre

Patricia Hamailainen
In memory of parents, Louis & Jennie Colbassani

Ed & Cora Hawkinson
In memory of Mabel Engstrom

The Hedja family
In memory of Bev Archibald Mogensen

Brad Hejda, Holly Hejda, Jed Hejda, Paul Hejda, Susan Gwash, and Judy Cimperman

In memory of their parents, Jed & Marie Hejda

Jerry & Kay Helgeson
In memory of the Joseph Gussman Family

Kay Elias Helgeson
In memory of departed friends from the class of 1960

Elias-O'Mara-Ryan grandchildren
In memory of Joseph Gussman Family

Kevin & Kathy Hoyhtya
In memory of Katelyn Marie Horton, accomplished artist and cherished niece

Daniel & Debra Joelson
In memory of Helen Ahlstrand

Dennis & Kaye Jorgensen
In memory of Helen Wicklund

Robert & Barbara Judnick
In memory of Jed Hejda

Robert & Barbara Judnick
In memory of Harvey Aluni

Jean-Marc Larsen family
In memory of Jed Hejda

William & Kelly Lemieux
In memory of Bill & Deeda Lemieux

Memorials

(since our last newsletter)

Ernest & Marsha Maki
In memory of Ellen Aro

Ernest & Marsha Maki
In memory of Art Davis

Dan & Katherine McFarland
In memory of Donald Gentilini

Jane Mozzetti
In memory of Merico Mozzetti

Mark & Alison Muhich
In memory of Richard Florey

Linda & Chuck Niskanen
In memory of Bea Longpre

Brian & Julia Nordling
In memory of Deane Driscoll

Judy Norri
In memory of Bill Aronen

Mark & Patty Phillips
In memory of John Angelo

Deanne Polski
In memory of John Angelo

Lucy Poupard
In memory of Ed Poupard

Bob & Elaine Prittinen
*In memory of Agnes Betzler
and Joyce Fleming*

Dave Puzel
In memory of Ellen Aro and Bill Aronen

Tony & Kathy Sacchetti
In memory of Joyce Fleming

Monica & Aubrey Schock
In memory of John Clarke

Dr. Don & Joann Sipola
In memory of Mabel Engstrom

Theodora Skubic
In memory of Joyce Fleming

Robert & Christine Springhetti
In memory of Elton Thayer

Joan Maureen Stickney
In memory of Phyllis Tekautz

Brenda & Roger Suihkonen
In memory of Harvey Aluni

Robert & Iris Teasck
*In memory of their parents
Teasck & Whitmarsh*

Mark & Georgene Tomazin
In memory of Bill Aronen

Phil & Mary Kay Troutwine
In memory of Richard Bailey

Gene & Zona Turja
*In memory of their daughters, Nancy
Gail Turja & Terry Lea Turja*

Dionilla Valentini
In memory of Phyllis Tekautz

David Verville
In memory of Ed Poupard

Scott & Cheryl Weappa
In memory of Helen Wicklund

Maribeth Wege (class of '47), Janet
Pearson (class of '45), and Donna
Thompson (class of '49) *In memory of
their brother, Richard Falkenberg,
class of 1951*

We appreciate gifts of all sizes – Thank You!

These lists have been prepared with care, but if your name has been omitted or is in error, please inform us of the oversight in order that we may correct our records.

Yes, we believe in building the health and vitality of Virginia

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date _____ Phone _____

I hereby pledge a sum of \$ _____
payable annually or as follows: _____

Donation enclosed _____

Charge my MasterCard or Visa:
_____ Exp _____

Gifts in all amounts are appreciated.

Direct my gift as follows: (circle one)

Foundation's General Unrestricted Endowment

Downtown Revitalization Non-endowed Fund

Virginia's Non-endowed Mural Fund

Blue Pride Fund

Virginia Public Library Fund

Virginia Educational Fund

Mesabi Range Youth for Christ Fund

My gift is in memory / honor of:



Make checks payable to:
Virginia Community Foundation
519 Chestnut Street
PO Box 559
Virginia, MN 55792
(218) 749-8239
www.virginiafoundation.com

Foundation Board Welcomes New Members



Brittany Chopp

Brittany (Morgan) Chopp, Health Career Specialist for the Northeast Minnesota Area Health Education Center, has recently joined the board of the Virginia Community Foundation. Brittany, who enjoys being involved in the community, has been a volunteer with the Virginia Community Foundation's annual fall fundraiser and is also a member of the Land of the Loon Committee.



Chris Bialke

We are pleased to welcome back Chris Bialke who returns to the board after a brief sabbatical to direct his energy to his growing family and business. Chris is a partner at Ryan, Kasner, Bialke Financial Planning. He is active with the Quad City Rotary Club and has a strong commitment in community involvement. Chris resides at Little Sand Lake with his wife Alyson and their four sons.

Foundation Bids Farewell

The Virginia Community Foundation board would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Stephanie Arduser as she leaves the board to relocate with her family. During her brief service to the board, Stephanie displayed true dedication to her fellow colleagues and the community. We wish Stephanie and her family success with their new endeavors.

Jennifer Pontinen has resigned from the board of directors to focus more fully on her young family and her position as a Business Consultant with the UMD Center for Economic Development. Jennifer has recently re-located her office at the Virginia campus of Mesabi Range Community & Technical College.

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