

The Greater Cedarburg ... now and forever FOUNDATION

A Newsletter for the Friends of the Cedarburg Foundation

Thirty-fourth Edition — December 2019

Back by Popular Demand: Community Members Enjoy Repeat Performance of 'A Night at the Cedarburg Museums'

For the second year running, the Greater Cedarburg Foundation (GCF) successfully took guests for an autumn ride through "A Night at the Cedarburg Museums," landing at the Cedarburg Cultural Center for the 2019 Community Gala on Saturday, September 28 as GCF's signature fundraiser.



(L-R) Jim and Jo Fox and Grace and Marc Ernisse embark on the first of three stops during the Greater Cedarburg Foundation's Community Gala on September 28, 2019.

Starting at the Cedarburg Cultural Center (CCC), trolleys transported more than 175 guests to the Cedarburg Art Museum, the Museum of Quilts & Fiber Arts and the Cedarburg History Museum for tours and cocktails before regrouping at the CCC for entertainment, live and silent auction bidding, and dinner.

Together, our community raised more than \$60,000 for the GCF to be used to help fund non-profit organization projects that preserve the local cultural heritage, enhance artistic endeavors and support educational, social and community-based services in the Greater Cedarburg area through the Foundation's annual grant process.

"While this night was about having fun, celebrating Cedarburg and socializing with friends," said John Cordio, GCF president, "we were also ensuring that Cedarburg will continue to be a special place in the future. The work of the Foundation is made possible

through generous donations from community members and businesses."

During the gala evening, more than 30 fabulous live and silent auction items were available for guest bidding. The Cedarburg Landmark Preservation Society (CLPS) bid on and won the original watercolor by Cedarburg artist Robert Helf, entitled "Cedarburg's Holiday Classic," which captures The Rivoli Theater in all its winter glory.

CLPS Co-Founder Don Levy immediately presented the painting to Rivoli's beloved managers and 2019 GCF Civic Award Recipients Jerry and Alice Voigt on behalf of the Society for their passion in managing our downtown gem.

New and improved this year, Silent Auction bidding took place electronically; guests just pulled out their phones, clicked into GCFGala.givesmart.com, and registered. They could browse the auction items and bid online, making the bidding and check out process smooth and easy, and also allowing those who could not attend the opportunity to bid and participate.

Local artist Robert Helf's "Cedarburg's Holiday Classic" brought in nearly \$6,000 for the Foundation during the live auction. Other live auction items included a Handen

GCF Annual Fund Drive Underway

The Greater Cedarburg Foundation has launched its Annual Fund Drive for 2019. Donations received from the fund drive help the Foundation provide financial support for projects undertaken by local non-profit organizations.

In an active year for the Foundation, we provided support this year to the **Milwaukee Film Festival** to help the festival expand its reach to include Cedarburg's own Rivoli Theatre. In addition, the GCF awarded grants to 12 other local organizations to help provide services and educational programs in our community.

Those organizations included:

- Adult Literacy Center of Ozaukee County
- Advocates of Ozaukee County
- Cedarburg Art Museum
- Cedarburg Cultural Center
- Cedarburg Friends of Parks and Recreation (Willowbrooke Playground)
- Family Enrichment Center
- Interfaith Caregivers
- Mel's Charities
- Ozaukee Family Services
- Riveredge Nature Center
- Town of Cedarburg (Sports Complex)
- Wisconsin Museum of Quilts & Fiber Arts

Since 2001, the Foundation has awarded grants totaling over

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COMMUNITY GALA

Photos courtesy of Ozaukee County News Graphic photographer Art Dahlke



(Above) Ready for a visit to the Wisconsin Museum of Quilts & Fiber Arts are (L-R) Inge and Frank Winter along with Jim Coutts and Carol Alexander Coutts.

(Left) The trolley makes a stop at the Cedarburg Art Museum for guests (L-R) Lisa and GCF Past President Joe Fazio, Shirley and Bruce Krenzke, and Cindy Simon and Eric Grassel.



(Above) Don Levy, co-founder and President of the Cedarburg Landmark Preservation Society since 1976, purchased "Cedarburg's Holiday Classic" on behalf of the Society and immediately donated it to Jerry and Alice Voigt for their passion in managing our downtown gem. In his own words:

"The Cedarburg Landmark Preservation Society owns the Rivoli, but Jerry and Alice are the Rivoli. They treat the Rivoli like it's a cathedral – there is not a smudge on a mirror or a speck on the floor. We wanted to give them Robb Helf's 'Cedarburg's Holiday Classic' as a way of showing our appreciation for their dedication and service since 2006."

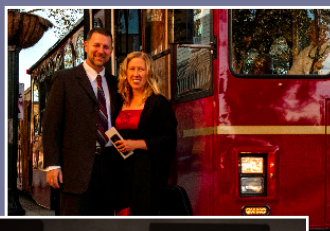


Jerry and Alice Voigt receive the original watercolor gratefully.

Local artist Robb Helf's original watercolor served as the centerpiece of the Community Gala's live auction. In his own words:

"I can't help but think the Rivoli IS the heart of downtown Cedarburg. This Rockwellian city we inhabit is the perfect backdrop for this icon of simpler times. I feel our community does embrace the nostalgic essence it evokes. Its heartwarming glow reminds me of being a kid during the holidays."

(Below) Andy Sargent and Heidi Hermann prepare to board Trolley No. 2 at the Cedarburg Cultural Center.



Auctioneer Joel Cielak and GCF President John Cordio enjoy the moment.

Back by Popular Demand (from pg. 1)

Distillery Private Tasting, a Margarita Cruise through downtown Milwaukee, a Brandywine Chef Table, an Evening Fishing Charter, and an adorable and show-stopping Cockalier Poodle, who found a home with a thrilled new family.



Silent auction items included a Holiday Date Night for Two to the Stilt House followed by the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra Holiday Concert at the CPAC, a hand-picked collection of aged whiskies and bourbons, a Pheasant Hunt for four at Wild Wings Sportsman's Club, Badger and Packer tickets, and several Cedarburg Performing Arts Center ticket packages to the CPAC's Visiting Artists Series for 2019-2020.

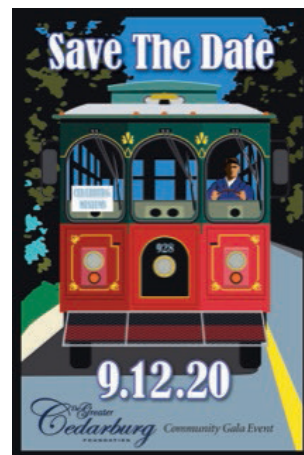
Businesses providing financial support for the evening included:

- Signature Sponsors: Answerport, Port Washington State Bank, and BankFirst
- Patron Sponsors: Levy & Levy, Michael Best, Pioneer Pet Products/Smart Cat, PyraMax Bank, Wipfli CPAs and Consultants, and HuschBlackwell
- Museum Sponsors: Spectrum Investment Advisors, and Arrabelle Luxury Apartments
- Trolley Sponsors: Olsen's Piggly Wiggly, Commerce State Bank, and BMO Harris Bank

"We all have an opportunity to continue investing in our community through the Foundation," concludes Cordio. "Whether it's attending the annual gala, participating in the annual fund drive in December, or becoming a member of the legacy society, we can all make an impact for generations to come. Please consider becoming a member of the Legacy Society or a board member.

We are so thankful for the support of our community."

A special thanks to Smart Interactive Media, our in-kind sponsor who manages our website, as well as to the Cedarburg School District volunteers who helped everything run so smoothly! ■



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DATE

Watch for exciting details to come for these Greater Cedarburg Foundation events next year:
Civic Event: May 2020
GCF Gala 2020: Saturday, September 12, 2020

Adult Literacy Center of Ozaukee County

New curriculum, tutor training improve lives

The life-changing ability for adult learners in Ozaukee County to improve their English language skills – to benefit their families, life-skills functionality, and job marketability – is vastly improved, thanks to a Greater Cedarburg Foundation (GCF) grant to the Adult Literacy Center of Ozaukee County for new curriculum implementation and tutor training.

“After one year using this new curriculum, our English Language Learners have increased their skills markedly,” says Katie Eippert, program director, Adult Literacy Center of Ozaukee County. “With this updated, efficient, focused learning experience, our students are better prepared to function with confidence in society and our tutors are much better able to meet their needs.”

The new program, called Ventures, provides an online component allowing tutors many more options to connect with students and respond to their needs. While the former curriculum focused solely on grammar, Ventures features listening, grammar, reading, writing and life skills, such as going to the doctor, employment opportunities, and paying bills.

What’s more, ALCOC tutors love the improvements.

“Our tutors onboarded quickly and easily,” says Eippert “Instead of CD players, tutors now use their smart phones and iPads to deliver Ventures’ QR code. Students can work with the curriculum at home, as well.”

Often students are uncertain or self-conscious of their ability to speak English. This can impede

basic life skills such as grocery shopping or paying bills. At ALCOC, each student has an individual education plan, setting personal and professional goals unique to them.

“Our mission is to provide better individualized educational services for adult learners to improve academic and life skills to pursue their personal, professional and life goals,” says Joe Nettesheim, Executive Director, ALCOC.

The cost of the new curriculum included teacher manuals, student workbooks and online resources, with tutor orientation and training taking place throughout the past year.



Often the ALCOC tutors help students with their citizenship exams: “We recently attended two students’ Naturalization ceremonies, traveling to the Federal Courthouse to help support and celebrate with them. It’s very meaningful for both tutors and students to share this experience – to see their efforts come to fruition,” says ALCOC Executive Director Joe Nettesheim.

The ALCOC team currently serves 41 students with 66 volunteer tutors who meet students day, night, and on weekends; they are former teachers, nurses, attorneys, and engineers and they are matched with students who have similar backgrounds. They spend 75 percent of their time on curriculum, and the remainder on

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Riveredge Nature Center’s ‘Scientist-in-Residence’ program thrives

Teachers in the Cedarburg School District are getting kids outdoors, working with a full-time Riveredge Nature Center environmental educator to build a new culture that integrates day-to-day science and environmental curriculum with outdoor learning. The goal? Students who are healthier, happier, more creative, and further inspired by the world around them.

Resulting from a 2019 Greater Cedarburg Foundation grant to continue a program that GCF helped launch in 2016 that spans five years, a full-time Riveredge Scientist in Residence (SIR) joined Cedarburg School District



Studies show academic achievement improves when kids learn outdoors,” says Leif Nordstrom, development specialist, Riveredge Nature Center. “We’re thrilled to see an increase in teacher engagement as well as positive effects on mental and physical wellness.”

classrooms in 2016 to increase teachers’ comfort, willingness and proficiency to incorporate outdoor learning with current curriculum.

The partnership is scheduled to continue through the 2020-21 school year.

“We focus on nearby outdoor spaces to all schools in the district, using lessons teachers are already teaching with a proven professional development model that works,” says Leif Nordstrom, Development Specialist, Riveredge Nature Center.

Using these outdoor spaces, students learn about ponds, insects, wildflowers, prairies, and more through hands-on instruction, reinforcing concepts they are learning in the classroom. Additionally, students utilize

school gardens to learn about growing their own fruits and vegetables. The SIR also engages with relevant school clubs, such as the Environmental Club (Cedarburg High School) and Green Team (Webster Middle School).

“Students and families are increasing their connection to the natural world through increased time outside, and teachers are developing the experience necessary to continue the positive outcomes on their own,” continues Nordstrom. “We also encourage increasing sustainable practices at home, such as gardening,

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Adult Literacy Center (from pg. 3)

other things important to the student including personal documents, school, and checkbook skills.

Grace Lutheran Church in Grafton provides three study rooms: 80 percent of students meet there, while others meet in libraries. Students receive services free of charge.

Explains Nettesheim, "Many of our students picked up, moved here from another country, and are starting over seeking new opportunities. They also want to help their kids succeed in school – it is the American Dream. Their

success depends on their ability to learn English and function in society with confidence, and their ability to work and support their family."

Often the ALCOC tutors help students with their citizenship exams.

"With this grant, we aimed to make significant impact in the lives of our students and renew the commitment of our tutors," concludes Nettesheim, "and we are so grateful to the Greater Cedarburg Foundation that we are delivering on this mission." ■

Scientist-in-Residence Program (from pg. 3)

composting, and recycling. Parent support at home is crucial to this program's success."

The SIR program directly supports all 4K-12th grade students, including 3,075 students at all five schools. More than 18,000 student contacts have been made through hands-on learning activities with the Scientist in Residence, and 1,026 teachers have engaged in professional development along with 821 community members who have served as chaperones and event volunteers.

"Studies show academic achievement improves when kids learn outdoors," explains Nordstrom. "We're thrilled to see an increase in teacher engagement as well as positive effects on mental and physical wellness."

Here's what teachers are saying:

- "Adds a real-world element to abstract ideas"
- "Students get to use hands-on material rather than just looking at pictures"
- "Increased student engagement and interest"
- "More memorable lessons"
- "Provides a new space for students to learn that meets their needs and access to content in new, engaging ways"

"The partnership with CSD and the Greater Cedarburg Foundation is paramount to our goal of promoting conservation as well as developing a sustained effort for these teachers, and to provide a model to be used further regionally and nationally," concludes Nordstrom. ■

Annual Fund Drive (from pg. 1)

\$1.6 million to many valued community organizations.

The Foundation's support of projects carried out by non-profit organizations helps preserve the cultural heritage and quality of life in the greater Cedarburg area. The Foundation raises awareness and funds through a semi-annual newsletter, annual fund drive and special events such as the Civic Event and President's Gala. As a result of these efforts, the Foundation's endowment (and power to give) has grown significantly.

Tim Wilkinson, board member and annual fund drive chair, said, "The Milwaukee Film Festival is just the latest example of what makes the Greater Cedarburg area a special place. Local residents give generously of their time and money to contribute to our quality of life. The Greater Cedarburg Foundation is

fortunate that many very generous members of our community support our efforts and enable us to respond to funding requests for projects that enhance our community."

Want to keep the legacy alive? Consider joining a committed group of people who are part of the GCF's Legacy Society. For more information, go to <http://cedarburgfoundation.com/gcf-legacy-society>.

"Please review the Annual Fund Drive letter in this newsletter and consider donating to the 2019 campaign," concludes Wilkinson. "We appreciate donations of any size."

For further information on the Foundation's mission or Annual Fund Drive, call 262-377-7338 or go to cedarburgfoundation.com. ■

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

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The Greater Cedarburg Foundation is a community trust that establishes endowments and administers the income thereon for the betterment of the greater Cedarburg area. The Greater Cedarburg Foundation works closely with the Greater Milwaukee Foundation, where it maintains an affiliation. Gifts to the Greater Cedarburg Foundation are tax deductible to the extent applicable under relevant tax law.



www.cedarburgfoundation.com