



Live here, give here.

Volume 2011, Issue 1

A Word from the President

GIFT is an acronym for: “Geneseo is for Tomorrow”. GIFT exists to help our Community continue to thrive through the generous support of folks like you. GIFT can help you connect with causes you care about. Because we are a non-profit community foundation we offer you the best tax benefits available. In addition we take care of all the administration so that giving is easy.

In these difficult economic times, being wise stewards of our financial resources concerns us all. Through our affiliation with The Community Foundation of the Great River Bend (CFGRB), we are the only local foundation whose policies and procedures have been certified as having met the National Standards for Community Foundations by the national Council on Foundations. With this certification you can be certain your assets are well managed, enabling you to grant maximum resources to the charities and needs you choose.

Our volunteer Board of local citizens and committees works tirelessly to help carry out your wishes. We can help make your charitable giving a rewarding experience and enable you to know that you will be helping Geneseo thrive, now and in the future.

I hope you will take a few minutes to look through this brochure and hear directly from our Board members for some good reasons for you to be excited about what GIFT can do for you!

Sincerely,

Bob Kuhns, Board President

What does GIFT do?

Do you ever wonder what the future holds for your community, your favorite non-profit organization or other specialized interests? Would you like to be that individual who provides sustainable monies to help meet their goals? The GIFT Foundation has the means to assist you in creating this lasting legacy.

GIFT does the work so you can continue the caring for generations to come. We provide convenient and flexible tools to empower our donors to enhance future generational needs with financial security; building a special relationship that extends far beyond your lifetime. GIFT tailors each fund to fit a personal request, which allows the opportunity for unique and customized giving.

No matter what the cause, whether it's preserving a favored historical site, enriching the fine arts or furthering the education of a well-deserved student, we can help you experience the joy of making a meaningful contribution to impact the present or future needs of your community.

Additional tax advantages, diverse distribution planning and extraordinary resources make GIFT an excellent choice. Together, we can better our community by connecting people who care with causes that matter.

How is GIFT Innovating?

Our mission: *to enhance the quality of life in our Geneseo area by providing a means for permanent, charitable giving to meet the needs of all donors for today and tomorrow.* GIFT is putting action into that mission. The current GIFT Board is working hard to add to our 26 separate charitable funds with assets of over one million dollars. By taking advantage of GIFT's relationship with the Community Foundation of the Great River Bend (CFGRB), here are some of our plans:

- GIFT is creating a new position and will hire an Executive Director to increase the community's awareness about charitable giving to create meaningful legacies for Geneseo and surrounding areas. The Executive Director will work with the local GIFT Board, CFGRB and their affiliates, financial advisors, lawyers, families and organizations to provide Geneseo area residents opportunities to learn how working with a community foundation can benefit them.
- GIFT will kick off a marketing campaign in the near future developed to educate anyone interested in charitable giving and creating personal legacies. The campaign will address the differences and advantages a community foundation offers over a private foundation, along with the many tools and types of giving available to donors.
- GIFT also plans to introduce “Teens for Tomorrow,” or T4T, to provide opportunities for young people to develop leadership skills and learn first-hand about the impact of philanthropy on people in our community. In addition to teaching young adults the role nonprofits play in our community, T4T also teaches our young people how to read and evaluate grant applications and make educated funding decisions.

GIFT is growing and moving forward. We have an active, progressive Board that is determined to help our community continue to be a wonderful place to live and grow for today and tomorrow.

Contact Us

Your communication with the GIFT Foundation will be kept private and confidential. You may contact us by any of the following methods:

The GIFT Foundation
P.O. Box 265
Geneseo, IL 61254

Phone: (309) 944-GIFT (4438)

Email: gift@geneseogift.org

www.GeneseoGIFT.org



Power of Endowment

Start Your Legacy Now

Give a gift that benefits the community forever

When you create a fund through Geneseo Is For Tomorrow foundation, your gift can benefit the community forever with a permanent endowment. Your gift is invested over time. Earnings from your fund are used to make grants addressing community needs. Your gift is a permanent source of community support, helping to do good work today and in the future.

One gift, many generations

Consider how an endowment gift can grow. If you make a \$100,000 gift this year, 15 years from now, the fund you established will have a balance of \$158,000 and will have distributed more than your initial gift amount in grants. In 25 years, your initial gift amount will have been given away twice. And by year 50, your fund will have a balance of \$455,000 and will have made cumulative grants of \$627,000 — a philanthropic rate of return of nearly \$1,000 percent in grants and growth. This example assumes a 5 percent annual payout and an 8.5 % rate of return.

Legacy and stability

Donors who endow their gifts make a difference in their community during their lifetimes and provide a gift that lasts forever. Grants will continue to be made in the name of the fund you establish so that your charitable wishes are preserved, even if an organization receiving grants no longer exists in the future.

Expert help

When donors or nonprofit organizations work through the Foundation to achieve their charitable goals, they benefit from the expertise of experienced local staff, community leadership and investment management.

Considering an endowment gift? Please contact us, we can calculate your gift's potential over time and discuss your preferences.

I'm Retired, How Can I Give Anything?

Gifts of Retirement Assets



More and more astute donors use retirement account assets in their charitable gift planning and leave different assets to family members. The reason is that retirement account assets left to family members (other than your spouse) may be subject to higher taxation than other types of assets. By setting up a Gift Fund, a Charitable Organization can receive 100 cents of every dollar left from a retirement plan or IRA. Leaving these same assets to your heirs, however, can expose the account assets to taxes — consuming as much as 65 percent at the federal level alone.

If I donate my house will I be homeless?

Retained life estate gift

Did you know you can transfer the deed of your personal residence or farm to set up your Fund now and keep the right to use the property for your lifetime and that of your spouse?

You will receive a current charitable tax deduction based on both of your life expectancies and the value of the property while you get the joy of giving a lasting legacy to your favorite church, museum, theater or other charitable organization.

GIFTs in Action

Notable community contributions by GIFT



Junior Achievement was a recent recipient of a grant from GIFT. JA is a partnership between the business community, educators and volunteers - all working together to inspire young people to dream big and reach their full potential. JA's hands-on, experiential programs teach the key concepts of work readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy to young people in the community. The grant from GIFT helps to support JA's current programs.



Antique Tractor Association's new barn. GIFT awarded a grant to ATA to help fund the project.



The picture of this Hillcrest Home resident was taken at Giant Goose in Atkinson. A grant from the GIFT Foundation helped to purchase a handicapped accessible bus for the Home, making trips like this possible.



Hammond Henry Hospital Foundation received a grant from the GIFT Foundation toward the "Designed To Be Patient Kind" building project.



Fans enjoy watching a Geneseo High School softball game at the newly constructed J.F. Edwards Softball / Baseball complex. GIFT was proud to award a grant to this community project that was completed with 100% volunteer labor and funded entirely by the community.

2010 Community Caring Award Winner

Les Stees of Geneseo was surprised with the GIFT Community Caring Award during a ceremony at the Geneseo Historical Museum on Sept. 16. Presented by the Geneseo Is For Tomorrow (GIFT) Foundation, the award honors individuals who have given back to their community.

In a nomination letter, museum curator Angie Snook credits Les with the vision for the new educational addition to the museum.

Les donated more than 787 hours to the project and “initiated others to join him in sharing their time and talents to make this dream a reality,” said Snook, adding “He always finds time to help others. He cares about giving back to his community by volunteering through Kiwanis, his church, Rebuilding Together and countless other daily things he does for his family and friends. He does these things without expecting anything in return.”

“Les’ love and devotion to the Geneseo community is endless. He sets a great example for the rest of us to try and follow.” Snook said.

In addition to the GIFT Community Caring Award, a \$500 donation was made to the museum on Les’ behalf by Lohman Companies Insurance Foundation’s fund with GIFT.

“I’m speechless,” said Les upon receiving the award. “I feel very fortunate to be able to do all of this. I don’t know what I’d do with my time otherwise.”



Pictured with Les are, from left: Brett Lohman of Lohman Companies Insurance; Bob Kuhns, president of the GIFT Foundation; and museum curator Angie Snook.

2010 Scholarship Winners

- Carlisle Evans Peck & Michael Atwell (GIFT)
- Nicole Barks (Bob & Barb Kuhns)
- Hannah West (Mary J. Ward)
- Amanda Oldfield (Paul & Lois Goodwin)



Garner Nursing Scholarships:

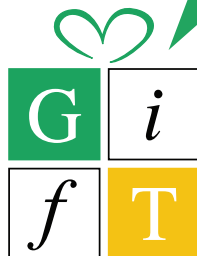
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| Sarah Abell | Michael Kelly | Kimberly Sullivan |
| Ambria Bishop | Stephanie Kennett | Emily VanDeWoestyne |
| Beverly Castaneda | Nicole Kittelseon | Carlie VanOpDorp |
| Jessie Clark | Molly Lillis | |
| Abbey DeGrave | Cassidee Skipworth | |

New GIFT Website



GIFT is excited to unveil its newly redesigned website, donated by Foresight Consulting. With new features it is now easier to navigate the site to find information about GIFT, funds, news, tools, awards, grants, scholarships and more. Visit www.geneseogift.org and let us know what you think!

With more than a million dollars in fund assets, in 2010 GIFT was able to grant over \$167,000 to schools, hospitals, nursing homes and various organizations throughout our community.



Community Foundation vs. Private Foundation

Geneseo is for Tomorrow (GIFT Foundation) is the only legally designated Community Foundation in Geneseo. All other foundations in Geneseo are legally classified as Private Foundations. There are several distinct advantages.

Community Foundation

A community foundation is created by the citizens of a local area and is a tax-exempt public charity that helps people accomplish their philanthropic goals. Community foundations work in partnership with concerned citizens, nonprofits, and governments to achieve community goals and maximize grant making effectiveness. They offer a variety of charitable funds to easily and effectively support the issues donors care about. Each fund is professionally managed, and endowed assets continue to grow over time. A community foundation supports community causes that matter. Community foundations are overseen by a volunteer board of leading citizens and often facilitate community-wide conversations about important community topics.

Private Foundation

Private foundations are subject to numerous technical rules and requirements of the IRS.

	Community Foundation	Private Foundation
Cash Gifts	Deductible up to 50% of AGI	Deductible up to 30% of AGI
Stock or Appreciated Assets	Deductible up to 30%	Deductible up to 20% of AGI
Excise Tax Paid Annually	\$0	2% on the net investment income unless qualified as exempt under IRS regulations
Privacy	Yes, fund information is kept private and confidential	No, must file IRS 990PF Form. Open for public inspection on the internet
Minimum Payout Requirements	None	Minimum 5% of average asset value / year
Establishing a Fund with IRS Charitable Status	Created by simple form	Usually a professional advisor is required
Tax-Exempt Status	Automatically covered by the Community Foundation	Must be applied for and secured from the IRS
Annual IRS Tax Return	Single IRS 990 form filed by Community Foundation	Must file a separate IRS 990PF form for each fund
Investment, Accounting, Audit and Tax Returns	Donor selects a fund manager, Foundation handles the rest	Trustees must perform, contract or hire staff for these services
Self Dealing Rules	Not applicable	Strict prohibition under IRS rules

Capital Gains Tax: \$0, Joy Received: Priceless Gifts of Marketable Securities

You have a favorite organization that you would like to support, but don't have the cash available. But you do have that stock you bought well over a year ago. You can transfer that stock to the organization and not pay capital gains tax on the appreciated value AND realize tax savings yourself from the gift.

For example, Angela purchased 1000 shares of stock at \$1.00 per share back in 1999. The stock is now worth \$10.00 per share or \$10,000. If Angela sold the stock and donated the cash, she would pay a minimum of 15% federal tax and 3% state tax on the \$9000 gain (\$ 1620) and then give the remaining \$8,380 to the organization.

On the other hand, if Angela transferred the stock to the organization, they could receive the full \$10,000 in proceeds. As a bonus, Angela could deduct the \$10,000 charitable donation from her taxes. If she is in the 27% Federal tax bracket counting 3% State tax, Angela would have a tax savings of \$3000!

The income tax charitable deduction allowable for a gift of long-term appreciated securities cannot exceed 30% of adjusted gross income in the year of the gift. Any excess over 30% can be carried over and deducted for up to 5 years.

A Final Word

The purpose of this newsletter has been to introduce the options for planned giving. Because of the tax benefits deliberately provided by Congress, you can give different types of assets, give them in different ways, and strategically plan so that you can do more for your favorite charities while doing more for yourself.

As a result, you, and so many others, can experience the joy of giving and leaving a legacy that will be remembered for generations to come.

Meet the GIFT Board of Directors



Bob Kuhns, President

Retired Teacher and Rural Mail Carrier
Owner of Kuhns Piano Services

Mike Ricketts, Vice President

President
Foresight Consulting, Inc.

Brad Toone, Treasurer

Hanford Insurance Agency, Inc.

Lorrie Snodgrass, Secretary

Office Manager
Becker & Becker, Plumbing and Heating

Katie Andrios

President
Four Seasons and Pegasus Fine Gifts

Sue Emmerson

Design Consultant
Chicago Street Decorating Center

Greg Heaton

Principal
Wisdom Financial Services

Brett Lohman

Vice President
Lohman Companies

Tom Zwica

Founder
Interactive Design Consultants



GIFT foundation

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