



MARCH 2017

Foundation Times

NEWSLETTER

\$250,000 Arnold Trust Transferred to GMFF

Greater Menomonee Falls FOUNDATION

The Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation transforms donor's dreams and desires into reality by providing an effective means for investing in their community, meeting needs now and in the future.



Board members of the Arnold Trust: Dan Hart, Robyn Turtenwald, and Dick Becker present GMFF Board President, Kevin Wolf with a check, commemorating the transfer of the Arnold Trust to GMFF.

In 2015 Attorney Jack Patrick reached out to the Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation and started discussing the benefits of merging the Milton and Elsie Arnold Trust with the GMFF funds.

"The Arnold Trust coming over to GMFF really helps grow our Foundation and build our endowment," GMFF president Kevin Wolf shared.

Many of the Arnold Trust grant recipients matched with GMFF's grant recipients through the years. Seeing the alignment with the Arnold's wishes, the \$250,000 trust was transferred to GMFF in late 2016, making it the largest donation received in the Foundation's history.

**Read the
amazing
story of
Milton
and Elsie
Arnold
on the
next page!**

"This means so much to GMFF, as we are approaching an endowment goal of \$1 Million."

Once we reach our goal, we will be able to expand our resources and begin to consider larger contributions to the community.

DID YOU KNOW?

You can make secure donations online at FallsFoundation.org



Greater Menomonee Falls FOUNDATION

Surprising Basement Find Becomes Community Treasure

Milton and Elsie Arnold's gift of treasure has left a lasting mark on Menomonee Falls and will continue to do so for years to come.

Born in 1903 in Manitowoc County, Milton A. Arnold moved to Menomonee Falls when he was a child. He worked for the Milwaukee Transport Company, an electric streetcar that operated in the city of Milwaukee.

In 1946 Milton married Elsie Meider. Elsie worked as a homemaker in their Appleton Ave. residence.

When Milton passed away in 1982, Elsie had a surprising find waiting for her in their basement: 400,000 Wisconsin Electric Bonds.

With the help of local attorneys, Michael Hurt and Jack Patrick, she agreed to establish the Milton and Elsie Arnold Community Trust in 1987. One of the trustees, Robyn Turtenwald, also a Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation Board Member, worked with Michael Hurt at the time when the trust was started.

Robyn shared, "The Arnolds were very humble people who stayed to themselves. When Milton passed away, Elsie definitely saw the value in giving back to Menomonee Falls. She felt it was a good place for their money."

The community really rallied around Elsie after Milton passed away. Robyn recalls they helped her get her driver's license, assisted with home repairs, including installing an air conditioning unit. A few years later, the Turtenwalds even helped Elsie move to Menomonee Place.

Though she passed away in 1990, Elsie and Milton's legacy continues to live on through their trust.

Each year the Arnold Trustees would meet to review how to award grants using the accrued interest. Though the average total amount of grants awarded each year was around \$10,000, the trust was not widely known or promoted.

Nevertheless, many Menomonee Falls area organizations benefited from these grants, including: Community Memorial Hospital, The Women's Center, School District of Menomonee Falls, Hope Network, Food Pantry, and the Parade Committees.

It is truly amazing that such a surprising find, tucked away in a basement for all those years, has grown to be such a large gift to the Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation.

Save the Date

Mark your calendar for our annual GMFF Event:

OVATION!

An event applauding the civic leaders and groups that keep the Menomonee Falls area strong and vibrant.

Tuesday, May 9th from 5:00pm - 8:00pm

Join us as we honor award winners who have volunteered countless hours to the community, and present grants to area non-profits.

Cost: \$25 per person includes hors d'oeuvres. Pay at the door.
Proceeds go to the Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation.

For more information: Contact Sue Jeskewitz at 262-251-9595
or email info@fallsfoundation.org.



“It is up to us to live up to the legacy that was left for us, and to leave a legacy that is worthy of our children and of future generations.”

- Christine Gregoire

Planned Giving Made Easy

Planned Giving—it sounds so formal and complicated, doesn't it? But Planned Giving is just the name for future giving that takes planning as opposed to giving “right now.”

The check you give your children at Christmas is an “immediate gift.” The money you leave them in your will, or the trust you set-up for your grand-kids is a “planned gift.”

One nice thing about planned gifts is that they do not require you to give away money right now. And they do not have to be only cash gifts. Planned gifts can come in a variety of forms and amounts. You can make a Planned Gift to the Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation just by:

- Giving the Foundation a gift of stocks or bonds
- Making the Foundation a partial (or full) beneficiary on a life insurance policy
- Naming the Foundation as a partial beneficiary of your pension or IRA.

You don't have to change your will to support the Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation. After your other bequests are made, you may choose to gift us a specific amount or a percentage of your assets.

GMFF Board Chairman, Kevin Wolf shares, “The GMFF is always open to discussions with donors to assure that they are informed as to how they can leave a lasting legacy to the community, just as Milton and Elsie Arnold did with their trust.”

Consult with your attorney or tax preparer for information on making this type of gift.

Just remember to name us as the Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation. It's that easy.



Meet Board Chairman Kevin Wolf

A forward-thinking leader and volunteer committed to giving back, Kevin Wolf brings his financial background and business acumen to the Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation. He currently serves as board chairman.

Through both his 20+ years in banking and volunteerism, Kevin has used his skills in helping communities and organizations grow.

With a move to First Bank Financial Centre's Menomonee Falls office in 2011, Kevin started working in market development. Around that same time he joined GMFF. Currently he volunteers on two additional boards, including the Butler Area Chamber of Commerce, helping to attract growth to area communities.

Similarly, he brings a desire to grow to GMFF. “I'm excited about growing the Foundation, building our endowment, and establishing partnerships with other foundations, which will, in turn, help benefit the community in an even bigger way.”

Outside of work and GMFF, you may recognize Kevin behind home plate. He has been a baseball umpire for twenty-two years, making calls for over 2000 games, many of which have been for the Junior Indians baseball league.

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Join our Founders Society by making a total contribution of \$10,000 within a 3-year period.