

The Falls Foundation Times

September 2012

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GMFF Awards \$8,000 in Grants

Trustees Choose to “Spread the Wealth”

Seven non-profit organizations will be receiving grants this year from the Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation (GMFF). In a meeting before the start of grant submission, the GMFF Board decided the Foundation should give out two \$2,000 and four \$1,000 grants. The Grants Committee recommended awarding one \$2,000 grant and split the other \$2,000 grant between two local non-profits in order to benefit as many organizations as possible. The Board unanimously approved this recommendation.

The 2012 Grant Recipients are:

- ◆ ARCh—\$2,000
(The Association for the Rights of Citizens with handicaps)
- ◆ Falls Patio Players—\$1,000
- ◆ Menomonee Falls Community League—\$1,000
- ◆ Menomonee Falls Area Food Pantry—\$1,000
- ◆ HOPE Network—\$1,000
- ◆ Wildlife in Need Center—\$1,000
- ◆ Menomonee Falls Parade Committee—\$1,000

**CONGRATULATIONS
TO YOU ALL !!!**

GMFF Trustees were pleased to have so many great applicants from which to choose. Each application was put through a complex matrix of questions designed to take any favoritism out of the decision making process and to ensure that the chosen recipients are truly making the Greater Menomonee Falls area a better place to work and live.

The GMFF was able to increase the dollar amount of grants being given out from \$4,000 in 2011 to \$8,000 in 2012 because of the generosity of all of our donors and especially our new Founders Society members. Please consider donating to the Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation.

*Help us get the word out about our grants.
Tell a non-profit organization that you know of about our grant cycle.*



Spotlight on: Wildlife in Need Center

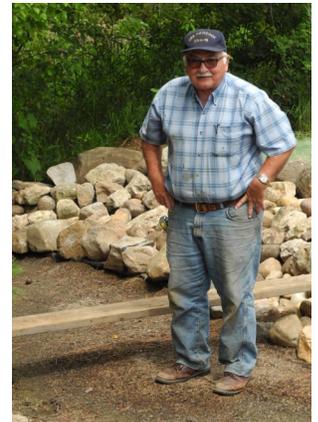


Cage with pond at the Wildlife in Need Center

Trustee Don Huenefeld visited the Wildlife in Need Center (2012 \$1,000 GMFF grant recipient and only organization of its kind in Waukesha County) to get some pictures and got quite an education as well! When Don went out to the center's facility in Oconomowoc, Dr. Tom Roberts was building cages for wildlife rehabilitation and gave Don the full scoop on the large, outdoor rehab pens. Each one is fully enclosed by wire fence and has a concrete base with a pool. When the cage needs to be cleaned it is hosed down and water is directed into the pool. The pool then is drained into a specially created dry stream bed that is designed to naturally filter the water back into the ground. All of this is safe for the wildlife and the ground water!

Don says, "The cages and the dry river are all part of a unique 'green' water system based on a rainwater collection process. Tom built that dry stream by hand, but it is more complicated than it looks because there is much structure under it. He'd love to tell you about it."

Dr. Tom poses in the dry stream bed he built by hand.



The Mission of the Wildlife in Need center is "to provide wildlife rehabilitation to Wisconsin wildlife with the intent to release back to their native habitat, conduct research designed to further the positive impact of rehabilitation, and provide quality community education programs and services." The GMFF is pleased to support such a wonderful organization.

GMFF Grants Award Presentation

On Wednesday, May 23rd, the Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation acknowledged the wonderful work being done by our seven 2012 grantees (see p.1 for list of grantees). Approximately 25 people were on hand including representatives from each grant recipient and two of the GMFF's new Founder Society Members.

Angelo's Café Vino in downtown Menomonee Falls was a great local setting for our presentation ceremony, emceed by Foundation Board Chair Darci Middaugh. With food and beverages provided, all present had a great time learning more about our grantee organizations and how the grants will benefit our community. Attendees also had the chance to talk directly with GMFF Trustees about the Foundation how they can help the community support the GMFF.

Among the attendees were: Bill and Jeanine Bode, Trudy Droese, Ray and Marian Etzel, Karen Nelson, Jack and Harriett Patrick, Tom and Mary Roberts and Pat Wille.



Todd Jex and Julie Loth accepting the grant award check for the Menomonee Falls Area Food Pantry.

We hope that you can join us next year!

Get to know GMFF Trustee Don Huenefeld

Don Huenefeld is known to some Menomonee Falls residents for the many years he taught at Menomonee Falls High School. Others may know him for the beautiful pictures he takes and for the promotional pieces he creates for the Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation. If you don't know him yet, you are missing out on a great person. Take a look below.

Don's thoughts

- Don considers his greatest contribution to Menomonee Falls to be the 43 years he was a music educator. He started at the original high school (North) and then in 1985 moved to the East building when the two schools were combined. He considers all of his years of teaching at the High School to have been almost total joy.
- Best thing about the Falls Foundation now is its unlimited potential for growth. It can do so many things in so many ways in benefit of people and institutions and our total community environment.
- Don's hope for the future of the Falls Foundation is that the benefit it brings to the Menomonee Falls area becomes better recognized, understood and supported.

Don is a life-long Wisconsinite. He grew up in Brookfield and attended Brookfield Central High School. Don got his bachelors of Music and his Masters of Music Education at UWM. As his responsibilities at the High School grew, he even went back to UWM for further classes in Administrative Leadership.

Don and his wife Melody have been married for 26 years. Melody is an IT director for Wheaton Franciscan Hospitals. They are kept company by a 168 pound Irish Wolf Hound named Gibbs and by the horse Don used to ride in competitive thoroughbred jumping—Bailey.

While Don has been doing photography since high school, he now considers himself an inventor. He holds a US Patent for a particular type of trailer hitch cover created out of frustration over trying to replace one hitch with another on a frozen winter morning. He now has two patents pending for improvements to musical instruments.



Don and Gibbs

"My time teaching at Menomonee Falls High School was (mostly) pure joy."

Did you know you can make the Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation a full or partial beneficiary of your life insurance? It's easy to do. Just ask your insurance agent or call the Falls Foundation at 262-617-7641 or e-mail us at info@fallsfoundation.org



**Greater
Menomonee Falls
Foundation**

P.O. Box 53
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

Phone: 262-617-7641

E-mail: info@fallsfoundation.org

We are on the web:

www.FallsFoundation.org

Meet the Trustees

GMFF Trustees are going to be near you soon.

Stop by and say HI!

Tuesday September 18th,

Menomonee Falls Chamber

“Business After Five” at The Community Center, Room 102



Trustee Nina M. Jones in the
Menomonee Falls July 3rd Parade