

2016 ANNUAL REPORT





MISSION STATEMENT

The Muskingum Watershed Conservancy Foundation is dedicated to supporting the mission of the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District by providing financial resources that enhance facilities, programs and conservation efforts on or adjacent to District lands and waters.

MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHAIRMAN AND DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

Dear Friends,

2016 was a year to celebrate! The Foundation awarded 16 grants to projects and programs throughout the Muskingum Watershed – the greatest number of grants ever! 2016 was also a record-breaking fundraising year, as revenues topped \$67,000! We also added two new funds: the Pleasant Hill Lake Park Fund and the Bike and Hike Fund. 2016 also marked the 15th Anniversary of the Foundation as a charitable nonprofit organization! We have accomplished so much in these 15 years, including growth in our fundraising, growth in the number of our charitable funds, and growth in our grantmaking.

The 18th Annual Golf Outing, held on August 11, 2016 at Oak Shadows Golf Club in New Philadelphia, was another record-breaking fundraiser! The event was sold out with 36 teams participating and included three platinum sponsors, four gold sponsors, 12 silver sponsors, and 39 hole sponsors. The Foundation raised over \$29,000 from this event, surpassing last year's record-breaking fundraising event! We cannot thank our sponsors enough for making the 2016 outing so successful!

The Foundation also held its second Annual Meeting on November 4, 2016. Proceeds from the Annual Meeting support our Mini Grant Program. We highlighted the 2016 Mini Grant program at our Annual Meeting, and had our youth camp grant recipients explain their projects. The Foundation funded Mini Grants to five camps in 2016, making a big impact on outdoor recreation and environmental education for hundreds of youth campers. We look forward to supporting more of the great work of our youth camps in 2017.

Our assets also continue to grow. Our total assets are now nearly \$750,000. By charitable foundation standards, we are not a large foundation, but we have made a large impact. Your gifts, your sponsorships, and your charitable donations go toward the betterment of

the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District. Your generous support over these years has helped support a project or program of the Conservancy District, or helped a community within the watershed.

As we celebrate our accomplishments of the last 15 years, we eagerly look forward to the next 15. With your continued support and generosity, we can further our mission and continue to make a big difference in recreation and conservation, while improving the quality of life for residents in the Muskingum River Watershed – the region we love and call home.

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James R. Schoch".

James R. Schoch
Chairman, MWCF
Board of Trustees



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nick L. Lautzenheiser".

Nick L. Lautzenheiser
MWCF Development
Coordinator

2016 GRANTS

Muskingum Lakes Corridor Project

Buckeye Trail Association

\$701

Charitable Endowment Fund



Water Quality Monitoring in MWCD Watersheds

Water Quality Monitoring in MWCD Watersheds

Carroll Soil & Water Conservation District

\$1,250

Crossroads RC&D Conservation Fund

Electric Service to Norma Johnson Center

Norma Johnson Center

\$1,000

Crossroads RC&D Conservation Fund



Electric Service to Norma Johnson Center

Cold Water Rescue Initiative

Tappan Lake Volunteer Fire Department

\$1,000

Charitable Endowment Fund

Water Rescue Equipment

Sherrodsville Volunteer Fire Department

\$1,000

Charitable Endowment Fund



Sherrodsville VFD Water Rescue Equipment

Dog Park Bench

Atwood Lake Park

\$600

Butch Heavilin Memorial Dog Park Fund



2016 GRANTS



Atwood Fall Festival Kid's Zone

Charles Mill Activities

Charles Mill Lake Park

\$1,000

Messerly Recreation Center Fund

Atwood Fall Festival Kid's Zone

Atwood Area Fall Festival

\$2,244

Atwood Park Fund



Charles Mill Kayak Trailer

Trout in the Classroom

Pleasant Hill Lake Park

\$2,475

General Fund

Charles Mill Kayak Trailer

Charles Mill Lake Park

\$1,250

Messerly Recreation Center Fund

2016 Safe Boating & Fishing Festival

North Central Ohio Safe Boating Council

\$1,000

Charitable Endowment Fund



2016 Safe Boating & Fishing Festival

MINI GRANT PROGRAM

The Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District has always had a strong partnership with the thirteen youth camps that are located along its lakes. The camps provide children with great opportunities for summer recreation and personal development. Each year thousands of youth attend these camps and get to experience the great forests and lakes that MWCD manages.

In addition to the MWCD's strong partnerships with these youth camps, the Foundation also has unique ties. Three of the eleven Foundation Board of Trustees have worked at these youth camps, and two Trustees were camp directors for over 30 years, respectively.

The Foundation conceived the idea of a Mini Grant Program in 2015 as a way to further support the programs and projects of the thirteen youth camps. This grant program also coincided with the planning of the Foundation's inaugural Annual Meeting. The Board of Trustees decided to utilize this new event, the Annual Meeting, as a fundraiser to support the Mini Grant Program.

The Mini Grant Program is open to the thirteen youth camps along MWCD lakes and funds programs and projects supporting recreation, natural resource conservation, and outdoor and environmental education.



(L-R) John Davis (MWCF Trustee), Kristin Picking (Camp Nuhop), Carrie Weigley (YMCA Camp Tippecanoe), Jim Schoch (MWCF Trustee), and Harry Horstman (MWCF Trustee). Not pictured: Camp Roosevelt-Firebird, Falcon Camp, and Pleasant Hill Outdoor Camp.

“The Mini Grant Program was established to help the camps enhance the educational experience and increase recreational opportunities for these youth,” said Development Coordinator Nick Lautzenheiser. “It would not be possible to have this grant program and support the great work of these youth camps without the generous support from our Annual Meeting sponsors and attendees,” said Board of Trustees Chairman Jim Schoch.

2016 MINI GRANT PROGRAM RECIPIENTS

Project Name	Camp	Grant Award
Green Energy Class	Camp Nuhop (Pleasant Hill Lake)	\$497
Outdoor Pizza Kitchen with Earthen Oven	Camp Roosevelt-Firebird (Leesville Lake)	\$1,000
Outdoor Cooking Expansion Project	Falcon Camp (Leesville Lake)	\$1,157
Pedal Preservation Project	Pleasant Hill Outdoor Camp (Pleasant Hill Lake)	\$1,313
Environmental Education Displays	YMCA Camp Tippecanoe (Clendening Lake)	\$1,033



MINI GRANT PROGRAM



Green Energy Class
Camp Nuhop



Environmental Education Displays
YMCA Camp Tippecanoe



Pedal Preservation Project
Pleasant Hill Outdoor Camp



Wood Fired Outdoor Pizza Kitchen with Earthen Oven
Camp Roosevelt-Firebird

18th ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

August 11, 2016 | Oak Shadows Golf Club, New Philadelphia



18th ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

August 11, 2016 | Oak Shadows Golf Club, New Philadelphia

1st Place: Team Omnipro Services



2nd Place: Team Bible



3rd Place: Team WesBanco



Proximity Contest Winners

Long Putt, Hole 1: Bryan Butler

Closest to Pin, Hole 8: Mike Nortetto

Longest Drive, Hole 10: Mike Rehfus, Jr.

Closest to the Pin, Hole 15: Chad Davis



2016 ANNUAL MEETING

November 4, 2016 | Performing Arts Center, New Philadelphia

The Foundation held its second Annual Meeting on Friday, November 4, 2016 at the Kent State University at Tuscarawas Performing Arts Center in New Philadelphia. Nearly 180 people attended the event, which included a dinner and program featuring keynote speaker Wade Johnston of the Green Umbrella.

Johnston is the Regional Trails Coordinator for Tri-State Trails, an initiative of the Green Umbrella Regional Sustainability Alliance. An avid commuter cyclist and outdoor enthusiast, Johnston is working to change the way people interact with the built environment and the outdoors in the greater Cincinnati area.



Wade Johnston

Mr. Johnston spoke on the recreational, health and wellness, and economic importance of trails in our communities. His presentation was timely as the MWCD continues to plan for trails within and between its parks and surrounding communities.

The Annual Meeting also highlighted the first round of Mini Grant recipients. Representatives from Camp Nuhop, the Pleasant Hill Outdoor Camp, YMCA Camp Tippecanoe, and Camp Roosevelt-Firebird explained how their respective projects improved the experiences of their youth campers.

"The Mini Grants are relatively small, but they have a big impact," said Development Coordinator Nick Lautzenheiser. "I think it was really important for the Annual Meeting attendees to hear how their generosity and support directly supported the great work of our youth camps," Lautzenheiser added.

Board of Trustees Chairman Jim Schoch thanked all of the generous event sponsors, which included Beaver Excavating, DLZ, Environmental Design Group, GPD Group, ms consultants, Omnipro Services, Tucson, and Woolpert. In addition to the event sponsors, there were a number of table and program sponsors. "We could not host an event like this without the support from these sponsors," Schoch explained.

Proceeds from the event will again support the 2017 Mini Grant Program. The 2017 Annual Meeting will be held at the Performing Arts Center on Friday, November 3.



Meeting attendees enjoying dinner at the Annual Meeting



Trustees with Youth Camp Mini Grant Award Recipients





Foundation Development Coordinator Nick Lautzenheiser speaks at the Annual Meeting



Foundation Chairman James Schoch (L), Chris McClellan, and Joe Mendes



Meeting attendees enjoying fellowship at the Annual Meeting

TOUR DE MWCD

Cycling has always been a passion for Foundation Development Coordinator Nick Lautzenheiser, and he loves riding throughout the Muskingum Watershed, exploring the roads around the Conservancy District's lakes and parks. In fact, most of his regular bike rides visit at least one of MWCD's facilities. That passion led to the creation of a new charitable fund for the Foundation.

In May 2016 Nick and his wife, Marissa, established a new fund in the Foundation – the Bike and Hike Fund – which would support future bicycle and trail infrastructure projects throughout the Muskingum Watershed. “Our intent was to create a fund that could help support trails in parks and communities, bike lanes and signage on roads, and trailheads and trail amenities,” said Lautzenheiser. “Also, I wanted to create a fundraiser to match our initial donation, bolster the fund, and promote awareness for both the Foundation and the Bike and Hike fund. The idea for completing a long bike ride seemed like the perfect fundraiser, and 200 miles seemed like the perfect distance.”

Lautzenheiser completed the “Tour de MWCD” on July 31, 2017. The Tour was a one-day, 201-mile bicycle ride, which included stops at all of the Conservancy District parks and marinas. The MWCD has long had a vision of linking its facilities with a vast network of trails; the Tour de MWCD route symbolically matched this vision.

Lautzenheiser started the journey from the Atwood Lake Park Welcome Center at 7:00 AM. He then traveled south, visiting the Leesville Lake Dam and South Fork Marina, Tappan Lake Park, Clendening Lake Marina, Piedmont Lake Marina, Seneca Lake Marina, and then Seneca Lake Park. Then he headed westward and northward, traveling through New Concord, and stopping at Wills Creek Lake, Coshocton (where the Walhonding River and Tuscarawas River meet to form the Muskingum River), the Mohawk Dam, Pleasant Hill Lake Park, and finishing at the Messerly Recreation Center in Charles Mill Lake Park at 7:30 PM. The ride

took 11 hours and 50 minutes. Marissa drove the support vehicle, which was stocked with water, food, tools, spare tubes, and even a spare bike.

“You really get an appreciation for how vast the Muskingum Watershed is when you ride 200 miles and only ride in 11 of the 27 counties it encompasses. Most of my ride was in the Middle and Lower Tuscarawas River, Wills Creek, and Walhonding River basins. I did not see any of the Upper Tuscarawas River or Lower Muskingum River watersheds. You also get an appreciation for how scenic the watershed is. This is really a great part of the state, and it's ideal for cycling and hiking. The MWCD has so many beautiful lakes and parks, and it was so great to be able to see all of them in one day. And, there's no better way to explore the watershed than by bicycle.”

The bike ride raised over \$2,200 and greatly boosted the Bike and Hike Fund. “I was extremely overwhelmed with all of the generosity and support! Those donations will help support future bicycle and hiking trail projects throughout the Muskingum Watershed,” said Lautzenheiser.

Lautzenheiser aims to continue this fundraiser annually, with different routes each year exploring new areas of the vast Muskingum Basin. “I'm already planning the 2017 Tour de MWCD route. My goal is to see new areas of the watershed each year.”

Lautzenheiser hopes the Tour de MWCD will eventually blossom into a multi-day bicycle tour attracting hundreds of cyclists. “I think there's real potential to make this an amazing event.”

“Marissa and I hope the Bike and Hike Fund continues to grow, so that it can help support a number of great projects for bicycle and trail improvements in the communities and parks throughout our watershed. More trails will ultimately encourage more people to get out and enjoy our beautiful watershed!”



TOUR DE MWCD



CHARITABLE FUNDS

MWCF Charitable Endowment Fund

Established to support projects and programs throughout the entire Conservancy District that further the mission of the Foundation.

Thomas W. Hudson Endowment Fund

Established in memory of Thomas W. Hudson, an avid sailor on Atwood Lake, this fund supports conservation projects at Atwood Lake.

Crossroads RC&D Conservation Fund

Established to continue the legacy of the former Crossroads Resource Conservation and Development Council, this fund supports natural resource conservation, environmental education, and outdoor recreation projects.

Atwood Lake Park Fund

Established through an agreement with the Atwood Area Fall Festival, this fund supports capital improvements to Atwood Lake Park.

Bike and Hike Fund

Established to support bicycling and trail infrastructure projects throughout the Muskingum Watershed.

Boating Safety and Education Fund

Established to support programming for boating education and safety at Atwood Lake. Donations to this fund support programs such as the Junior Sailing Program.

Butch Heavilin Memorial Dog Park Fund

Established in memory of Butch Heavilin, this fund supports the development and operation of a dog park at Atwood Lake Park.

James R. Pitney Law Enforcement Fund

Established in memory of former MWCD Ranger, James R. Pitney, this fund supports training and education for MWCD rangers and peace officers in Ashland and Richland counties.



Crossroads RC&D Conservation Fund



Boating Safety and Education Fund



Butch Heavilin Memorial Dog Park Fund



CHARITABLE FUNDS



Atwood Lake Park Amphitheater Fund

Atwood Lake Park Amphitheater Fund

Established to support the development of and improvements to the amphitheater site at Atwood Lake Park.

Regis Wissler Endowment Fund

Established in memory of Regis Wissler, this fund supports improvements and enhancements at Seneca Lake Park.

Piedmont Lake Fund

Established by the Belmont Better Hunting and Fishing Club, this fund supports improvements at Piedmont Lake, particularly increasing fish populations.



Messerly Recreation Center Fund

Messerly Recreation Center Fund

Established by respected Ashland University professor and current Charles Mill Lake Park Activities Leader, Donna Messerly, this fund supports the development and operation of the Messerly Recreation Center at Charles Mill Lake Park.

Joey Moffitt Tappan Lake Park Fund

Established in memory of Joey Moffitt, this fund supports projects at Tappan Lake Park in appreciation of all of the memories made at Tappan Lake for Joey and many generations of the Moffitt family.



Pleasant Hill Equine Fund

Pleasant Hill Equine Fund

Established to support equestrian trail development and maintenance in and around Pleasant Hill Lake Park.

Pleasant Hill Lake Park Fund

Established to support educational and recreational projects at Pleasant Hill Lake Park

General Fund

Established to support projects throughout the Conservancy District.

2016 DONORS

Thank you to our 2016 Donors!

MEMBERS

\$500 and greater

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Donnie Borland
Mary C. Burley
Rex Carper and Leslie Hudson Carper
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2016 DONORS

Thank you to our 2016 Donors!

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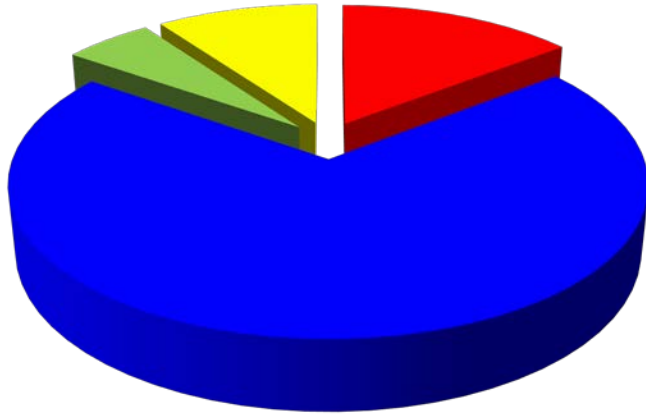
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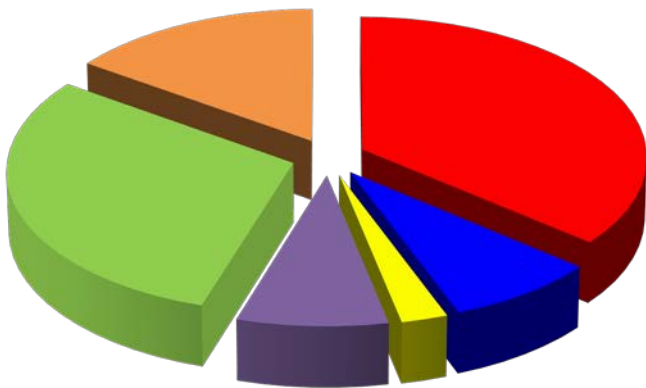
2016 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

REVENUES



- Memberships - 14.5%
- Fundraisers - 70.1%
- SCF Reimbursement - 5.4%
- Other Contributions - 9.9%

EXPENSES



- Fundraiser Expenses - 36.1%
- Professional Fees - 8.2%
- Insurance - 2.5%
- Office Expenses - 8.1%
- Grants - 30.0%
- Asset Transfer - 15.2%

FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS

Current Assets*

Checking	\$133,527.93
High-Yield Savings	\$46,470.25
Total Current Assets	\$179,998.18

Investments**

Charitable Endowment Fund	\$192,435.66
Thomas W. Hudson Fund	\$255,906.03
Crossroads RC&D Fund	\$118,807.41
Total Investments	\$567,149.10

Total Assets **\$747,147.28**

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	\$59,880.86
Temporarily Restricted	\$685,766.42
Permanently Restricted	\$1,500.00
Total Net Assets	\$747,147.28

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

REVENUES

Memberships	\$14,059.00
Fundraisers	\$67,826.34
SCF Reimbursement***	\$5,250.00
Other Contributions	\$9,596.80
Total Revenues	\$96,732.14

EXPENSES

Grants	\$15,983.11
Fundraiser Expenses	\$19,241.70
General Administration	\$9,980.86
Asset Transfer	\$8,121.00
Total Expenses	\$53,326.67

*Balances as of December 31, 2016; unaudited.

**Endowment funds held by the Stark Community Foundation (SCF).

***Reimbursement from Stark Community Foundation for grants awarded from Charitable Endowment Fund, Hudson Fund, and Crossroads RC&D Fund.



ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

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STAFF

Nick Lautzenheiser
Development Coordinator
nick@mwcd.org

The Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District (MWCD) Charitable Endowment Fund was established in 1996 as a component fund of the Stark Community Foundation to provide donors an opportunity to make tax-deductible contributions to support the mission of the MWCD. In February 2001 the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy Foundation was officially incorporated as a 501(c)3 nonprofit charitable organization with the mission of providing financial resources to enhance facilities, programs, and conservation efforts on or adjacent to Conservancy District lands and waters.

There are currently 16 charitable funds within the Foundation, which support conservation, water quality, recreation, and environmental education projects throughout the Muskingum Watershed. Since 2004, the Foundation has funded 86 projects totaling over \$327,000.

In addition to supporting worthwhile conservation and recreation projects, the Foundation was created to help donors meet their charitable goals. The Foundation has helped a number of individuals realize dreams and honor loved ones by establishing charitable funds in their memory.

If you are in need of assistance in developing a charitable contribution plan or establishing a new charitable fund, please contact Nick Lautzenheiser, Development Coordinator, at 330-556-4831 or nick@mwcd.org. For more information, please visit www.muskingumfoundation.org.





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Web: www.muskingumfoundation.org