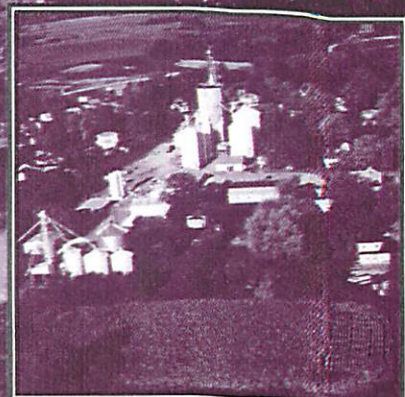
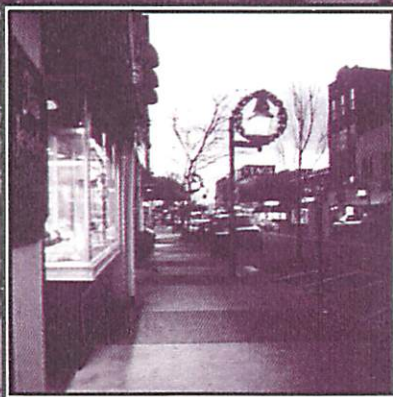
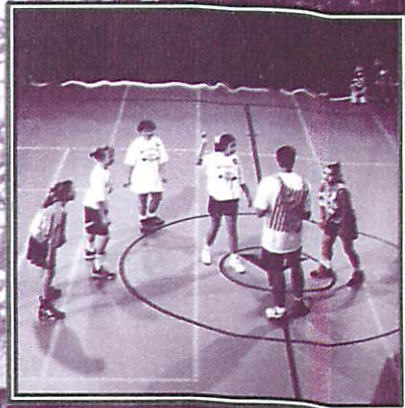


MOUNT VERNON/KNOX COUNTY COMMUNITY TRUST

1997
ANNUAL
REPORT



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Mission Statement

The Mount Vernon/ Knox County Community Trust, having been created to receive and accept property and contributions to be administered for charitable purposes benefiting Mount Vernon and Knox County, Ohio, shall be operated so as to fulfill the following mission: ***Improving...*** the quality of life in Mount Vernon and Knox County through charitable giving. ***Providing...*** a vehicle for donors with varied interests to support charitable and community activities. ***Assessing...*** and responding to emerging and changing community needs in the fields of education, youth services, recreation, arts and culture, social services, and civic and community development. ***Developing...*** a permanent endowment for the community. ***Serving...*** as a catalyst to initiate projects vital to the community.

Year In Review



Mount Vernon High School Baseball Field.

We are proud to present the 1997 report of the Mount Vernon/Knox County Community Trust.

Total assets of the Trust at the end of the year were \$13,120,332, a 5.0% increase over last year end.

Twenty-two donors established new funds or contributed to existing funds for a total of \$270,078.

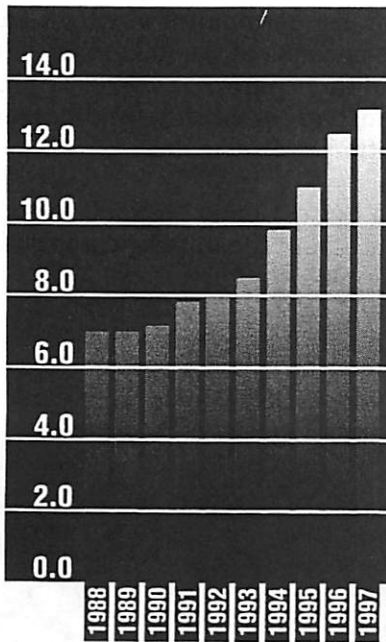
The mission of the Community Trust is to develop a pool of funds to generate income to benefit the people and communities of Knox County. The Distribution Committee is responsible for evaluating the requests for grants, and to challenge the communities to improve their quality of life.

This past year, grants from the Unrestricted Funds totaled \$197,480, distributions from our Designated Funds were \$213,509, and scholarship grants were \$169,966, for a grand total of \$580,955. Donor-advised funds distributed totaled \$14,400. The Trust distributed a grand total of \$595,355 in 1997 to benefit our community and the charitable organizations that make our community a better place in which to live.

A ten-year review of grants and distributions emphasizes the magnitude of the Community Trust's impact on our communities. Grants for community projects over the last ten years totaled \$2,151,212. Distributions from Designated Funds totaled \$2,390,880, and scholarship grants equaled \$1,772,484. A grand total of \$6,314,576 was distributed over this period by the Trust to help people improve the quality of life in Mount Vernon and Knox County.

Total Assets

Dollars in Millions



We truly owe a debt of gratitude to the organizers and early contributors in 1944 who brought this magnificent community asset to fruition. The source of growth of the Community Trust today comes both from contributions by generous and thoughtful citizens and the investment expertise of our Trustee bank.

There are three broad categories of funds within the Community Trust:

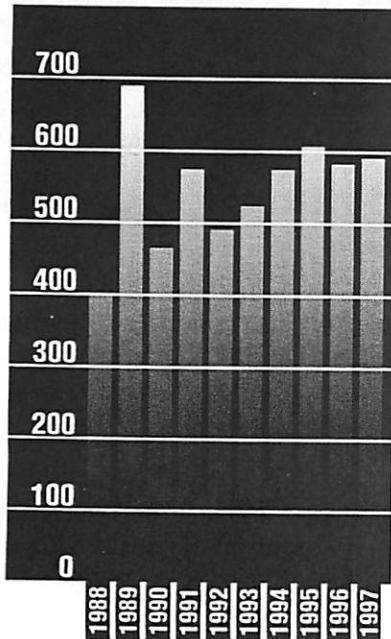
1) Unrestricted — The income from the unrestricted funds is disbursed by the Distribution Committee, after detailed evaluation, to support local charitable and community-based service projects.

2) Designated — Income from the designated funds is disbursed as the Trustee is directed by the donors at the time the principal is contributed to the Trust.

3) Donor-Advised — Income and/or principal from these funds is disbursed over time at the direction of the donor.

Total Grants

Dollars in Thousands



The Trust was initially founded with the goal to improve our communities. Our founders provided a central organization to accomplish this endeavor. The founders were generous contributors to the Trust, but realized continued support would be necessary for the Trust to achieve its goal. Consequently, a part of the mission of the Trust is the encouragement of individual and corporate philanthropy. Fortunately, we have been blessed with many additional contributors to the Trust over the past fifty-three years.

We encourage individuals and companies to recognize the value of the Trust to the community and utilize the Trust for their philanthropic activity. In addition to the personal satisfaction of giving, there are many programs which provide tax benefits to the contributor.

Undoubtedly, the most significant philanthropic area of the Trust has been the scholarship funds. Recognizing the importance of education and the escalating costs of higher education, the Distribution Committee has energetically pursued a program to expand the number and amount of schol-

arship grants. In the past ten years, your Community Trust has granted \$1,772,484 in scholarships to 978 Knox County Students.

While we take great pride in these imposing figures, we must be mindful of why it has happened. Scholarship grants from the Trust are possible because of the generosity and thoughtfulness of the donors. We hope the recipients and their parents express appreciation, not to the committee, but to others who may someday establish a fund to help more young people acquire a much needed higher education.

Grants from the Trust vary from \$250,000 for the YMCA Sport Center to \$250 for the refurbishing of the historic Dan Emmett birth place. Grants from the unrestricted funds of the Trust are frequently made on a matching basis. The philosophy of these grants is to encourage or challenge the grantee to obtain other contributions for its project. Many times that contribution is a gift of labor or materials to build or improve a facility for the community.

Every project supported by the Trust is intended to improve our community and/or the quality of life in our community. Since the founding of the Community Trust in 1944, the Trust has played a leadership or key role in many of the significant projects in our community. The Community Pool, Kenyon College, Mount Vernon City Hall, Knox County Airport, Mount Vernon Nazarene College, YMCA, Salvation Army, Hospice, and the Public Library of Mount Vernon and Knox County have all benefited from awards made by the Trust.

Our years of support for tree planting and gardens played a major role in the downtown beautification which resulted in Mount Vernon being named "Ohio's Most Livable City."

All of these wonderful things are the result of gifts, large and small, from the caring people who wanted to maintain and enhance the quality of life for our community.

While the Committee approves many meaningful grants to meet the needs of the community, the ability of the Trust to make substantial grants for community facilities is most significant. This past year, the Trust completed the final payment of the \$250,000 pledge for the YMCA Sports Center (a facility that serves over 4,800 Knox County boys and girls), distributed the final payment of its \$150,000 grant to the Mount Vernon Nazarene College for the Library building, and paid the second installment on its \$100,000 pledge for the computerization of the Public Library.

Grants from the Trust frequently make the difference between success or failure for community projects. We believe it is important to continue recognition of the individuals who have established funds to benefit our community. It is our objective to preserve the memory of these benevolent and caring people.



The Kokosing Gap Trail

The first grant by the Trust in 1945 was a grant of \$6,000 to establish a "City Planning Fund." Since that time, the Trust has continued to support projects to develop and execute those plans, especially those relating to parks, playgrounds, and the preservation of the environment.

The Trust continues to support planning projects for our community. Focus 2100, the current planning project sponsored by the Mount Vernon Area Chamber of Commerce, has been eminently successful. A gratifying element of its study has been the significant individual participation in this comprehensive analysis of community needs.

With regret and appreciation we report that Kenneth W. Stevenson has resigned his position on the Distribution Committee of the Community Trust. He has served seven and one-half years. He is an engineer by profession and has been employed by Cooper Bessemer Company and its successors for forty-six years. He brought to the Trust his analytical mind as well as an excellent memory and knowledge of the local area. He considered the Community Trust to be an important community asset. In the future, he will be spending more time away from Mount Vernon. We wish him the best of luck in all his new endeavors. Mr. Mark R. Ramser, President of Ohio Cumberland Gas Company, has been appointed to fill this vacancy.



Kenneth W. Stevenson

On December 31, William A. Stroud completed his second and maximum term appointment. Commencing January 1, 1998, that vacancy is filled by Mr. L. Bruce Levering. Mr. Levering is President of Levering Management Inc.

The year 1997 was a good year for both the Trust and the communities it serves. With your help, 1998 will be even better. Arranging for a tax-exempt gift or for a bequest in a will is not complicated. Please contact either our Trustee, the First-Knox National Bank Trust Department, or any member of the Distribution Committee.

William A. Stroud Retires



William A. Stroud retired from the Mount Vernon/Knox County Community Trust December 31, 1997, after spending the past ten years serving as chairman on the Distribution Committee. His guidance of the Trust during these years was invaluable, and he was a tireless promoter of the value of having a strong community trust to support projects that might have difficulty finding funding from conventional sources, yet would improve the quality of life in the county. Indeed, one of the most important movements during Mr. Stroud's tenure was outreach to the communities in the county other than Mount Vernon. Mr. Stroud likely has the deepest knowledge of the Community Trust of any living person due to his long association with it. In addition to the past ten years of direct service, he also attended the meetings of the Community Trust since his arrival in Mount Vernon in 1967 as the President, and later Chairman, of The First-Knox National Bank, the trustee for the Trust. He is proud of the impact the Community Trust has made in the county and will discuss its projects with anyone. This past year, Bill provided initial funding committed to improving our park and recreational facilities, an area in which he has always had a special interest.

We thank you, Bill, for your unswerving optimism in Knox County and its residents; that tomorrow will be a better day than today, and with the help of the community, the Community Trust will continue its critical role in this improvement.

Spotlight on Philanthropy



Education was very important to Helen Hope Cooke. After being raised in Fredericktown, she attended and graduated from both Ohio University and Columbia University. Knowing the value of education, she spent much of the rest of her life educating youth in Greenwich, Connecticut and Beirut, Lebanon. After retiring from teaching and moving to Mount Vernon, she continued to extend her personal education by traveling with her sister in many parts of the country, having already taken trips to areas of Africa and China. She also joined the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Mount Vernon and enjoyed her personal journey of deeper religious understanding during her years of attendance.

Helen died in 1994, and the assets from her trust at First-Knox National Bank were transferred into two separate funds in the Mount Vernon/Knox County Community Trust. One part, now worth over \$640,000, was set aside to help others in the path of knowledge. She directed that the income from this fund be used to provide scholarships to students graduating from the high school in Fredericktown, Ohio, her hometown. This fund provided over \$35,000 in scholarships to twenty-eight students in 1997, and will continue to support this very important interest to her. The other portion of her trust, also over \$640,000, created a fund for the First Congregational United Church of Christ. The income from this fund provides support to many of the projects at the church and keeps her presence within the congregation.

Education and her church were two important aspects of Helen's life. Through these gifts she will provide perpetual support for them and improve the quality of life for all Knox County residents.

Grants from Unrestricted Funds – \$197,480

These funds are the most responsive to changing needs in the community. These funds permit the Trust to meet urgent community needs through a high degree of flexibility. Income is distributed for local purposes and projects where the needs are the greatest as determined by the Distribution Committee.

During 1997, the Trust awarded grants as follows: 9 new projects in 1997 and 6 payments on prior year grants.

Alcohol and Drug Freedom Center of Knox County	\$5,000
A grant to help fund structural repairs for the Center's new office building.	
Arthritis Foundation of Knox County	\$6,000
A matching grant to provide office equipment for this agency.	
City of Mount Vernon	\$7,822
A matching grant for the renovation of parking facilities on Mulberry Street between Vine and Gambier Streets.	
Jacket Boosters, Inc.	\$14,600
A matching grant to construct a concession/press box facility, a batting cage, install new bleachers, and install concrete walkways at the Mount Vernon varsity baseball field.	
Knox County Educational Service Center	\$1,500
For the fourth consecutive year, the Trust has underwritten the Youth Enrichment Series (YES), bringing cultural programs to all Knox County schools.	
Knox County Historical Society	\$250
The trust purchased materials which enabled Laura Clor of Girl Scout Troop 28 to make cosmetic improvements to the Dan Emmett House.	
Knox Net, Inc.	\$19,108
A matching grant to implement improvements in services and accessibility to the residents of Knox County.	
Kokosing Gap Trail	\$1,600
The grant enabled the Trail board to install directional signs in key locations of Mount Vernon to facilitate visitors' access to the trail. The construction of an open shelter at the west end of the trail was also partially funded.	
Mount Vernon City School District	\$5,000
A matching grant to install new playground equipment at West Elementary School.	
Mount Vernon High School In-The-Know Team	\$2,000
The High School In-The-Know team advanced to the National Finals in Washington, D.C. A grant from the General Fund helped to cover the team's travel and lodging costs.	
Mount Vernon Nazarene College	\$50,000
The third and final installment on \$150,000 grant toward the construction of the new library and learning center building.	
Mount Vernon Shade Tree Commission	\$4,600
Funding for planting trees along Mount Vernon Avenue Extension, making the Memorial Park/Mount Vernon Middle and High School complex a more inviting destination.	
Public Library of Mount Vernon and Knox County	\$25,000
The second installment of a \$100,000 grant toward the computerization of the Library allowing for automated cataloging of materials and Internet access from the Library.	
The Ohio State University Extension Office of Knox County	\$5,000
Informational signs were constructed and erected along the Kokosing Gap Trail. Information presented on these signs concerned the railway, natural resources of the area, and other items.	
YMCA of Mount Vernon	\$50,000
The fifth and final installment of a \$250,000 pledge for the YMCA Sports Center.	
Total Grants from Unrestricted Funds	\$197,480

Grants from Designated Funds – \$213,509

Designated distributions are made according to written instructions at the time the gift is made. Grants from Designated funds reflect the charitable interests of donors and provide needed operating support to diverse charitable organizations. These funds represent a permanent memorial to the donor.

During 1997, the Trust distributed 63 grants totaling \$213,509.

Robert Black Fund

Knox County Mental Health Association \$ 4,862

Fred Barry, Jr. Scholarship Fund

Kenyon College 1,511

Mildred Bennett Fund

East Knox Local School District 2,103

Knox County Career Center 2,103

J. Gordon Bone, Jr. Student Aid Fund

Kenyon College 20,510

Mount Vernon Nazarene College 6,837

Sterling Braddock Fund

Ebenezer United Methodist Church 476

Gordon and Roberta Chalmers Fund

Kenyon College Library 9,783

Garfield and Mazie Colgin Memorial Fund

Messiah Church 4,670

Helen H. Cooke Memorial Fund

First Congregational United Church of Christ 28,994

Jennie Debes Heart Fund

Knox County Heart Association 1,559

First Congregational United Church of Christ Fund

First Congregational United Church of Christ 142

First Congregational United Church of Christ - Building Fund

First Congregational United Church of Christ 101

First Congregational United Church of Christ - Howard Tarr Fund

First Congregational United Church of Christ 118

First Congregational United Church of Christ - Walter Starr Fund

First Congregational United Church of Christ 116

Ellen M. Heckler Memorial Fund

Ohio Eastern Star Home 146

H. Grant Heckler Memorial Fund

Gay Street United Methodist Church 224

W. Glenn Hess Fund

American Red Cross 2,252

Bladensburg Church of Christ 2,252

Brinkhaven Church of Christ 2,252

Danville Church of Christ 2,252

Martinsburg Church of Christ 2,252

Salvation Army 2,252

United Way of Knox County 2,252

Utica Church of Christ 2,252

Zack T. Hollister Fund

Bird Cemetery Association 87

Interchurch Social Services Fund	
Interchurch Social Services	\$ 4,412
Alice Jewell Fund	
Heart of Ohio Girl Scouts	38
F. William Kahrl Fund	
St. Paul's Episcopal Church	143
R. B. Kincaid Fund	
First Congregational United Church of Christ	2,120
Kiracofe Family Fund	
First Congregational United Church of Christ	448
Knox County Agricultural Society Fund	
Knox County Agricultural Society	845
Knox County Cancer Society Fund	
Knox County Cancer Society	86
Knox County Heart Fund	
Knox County Heart Association	86
Knox County Historical Society	
Knox County Historical Society	181
Kokosing Gap Trail Fund	
Kokosing Gap Trail Fund	124
Harriett B. Lawler Fund	
Gay Street United Methodist Church	7,045
Muskingum College	4,697
League of Friendship Fund	
Knox County Historical Society	109
Peter and Alexandra Letz Fund	
Hannah Browning Home	893
Ethel Lyman Memorial Fund	
Public Library of Mount Vernon & Knox County	244
James K. Lyman Memorial Fund	
American Red Cross - Knox County Chapter	12
Arthur and Grace Rawlinson Memorial Fund	
Hannah Browning Home	603
St. Paul's Episcopal Church	603
Walter and Jane Rudin Fund	
City of Mount Vernon	428
St. Paul's Episcopal Church Fund	
St. Paul's Episcopal Church	46
Delbert C. Schmidt Fund	
Faith Lutheran Church	227
Mae S. Taylor Fund	
Hannah Browning Home	498
Zenno and Mae S. Taylor Fund	
First Congregational United Church of Christ	3,441

Mae S. Taylor YMCA Fund	
YMCA of Mount Vernon	\$ 1,187
Martha Turner Walker Memorial Fund	
First Presbyterian Church	45
James R. Westerheide Memorial Fund	
St. Vincent De Paul School	92
Amy F. Williams Memorial Fund	
First Congregational United Church of Christ	2,133
Salvation Army	2,933
YMCA of Mount Vernon	7,734
Beatty B. Williams Endowment Fund	
YMCA of Mount Vernon	11,457
Beatty B. Williams Library Fund	
Mount Vernon Public Library	3,970
Beatty B. Williams for YMCA et. al.	
First Congregational United Church of Christ	3,489
YMCA of Mount Vernon	3,489
National Board of YMCA	3,489
United Way of Knox County	3,489
YMCA Endowment Fund	
YMCA of Mount Vernon	39,550
YWCA Girls Scholarship Fund	
YMCA of Mount Vernon	765
Total Designated Grants	\$ 213,509
Donor Advised Grants	\$ 14,400

Scholarship Grants – \$169,966

Grants for scholarships are made from three categories of funds: Unrestricted, Designated, and Donor Advised. The Trust has appointed an independent Scholarship Selection Committee to evaluate and select candidates for scholarship awards. The Selection Committee is composed of three members, one each from Kenyon College and the Mount Vernon Nazarene College, and a high school in Knox County.

The Trust distributed 172 grants during the past year.

Robert C. Appleton Fund	\$7,000
Mount Vernon Nazarene College	Angela Statler
Ohio Northern University	Todd Carter, David Kohl
Ohio University	Karen Hollish
Otterbein College	Angela Howell - Jennifer Nunley
The Ohio State University	Brian Perkins

Clark and Lucy Biggs Fund	\$11,000
Bluffton College	Julie Pruett
Brigham Young University	Joseph Scoresby
Case Western Reserve	Michelle Butler
Dartmouth College	Bryan Coffing - Marc Fenigstein
Kent State University	Sarah Kepple
Lawrence University	Meredith Kolar
Miami University	Ryan McGough - Chad Palmer - Lisa Sinclair
Ohio Northern University	Christopher Schiefer
Ohio University	Jamie Doup
University of Dayton	Kent Depue
University of Toledo	Natalie Yarman

Helen H. Cooke Fund	\$35,500
Ashland University	Michelle Hedinger - Everett Murphy - Tory Wilkinson
Baldwin-Wallace College	Jason Burgholder
Capital University	Casey Braddock
Cedarville College	Kathy Swartzentru
Kent State University	Britney Misencik - Heather Partington
Miami University	Hanna Boone - Heath Salva
Mount Union College	Mark Boone
Muskingum College	Dawn Carpenter - Ryan Overholt
Ohio Northern University	Shelly Burch
Otterbein College	Benjamin Streby
The Ohio State University	Leslie Foster - Tracie Hayes - Jonathan Hughes - Eric Tharp - Erin Grimm - Nicole Strickler
United States Coast Guard Academy	Emily Tharp
University of Toledo	Susan Allarding - David Andrzejewski - Jonathan Blevins - Mark Humphrey
Wittenberg University	Eryn Phillips - Mandy Stevens

Designated Fund	\$1,200
Mount Vernon Nazarene College - Excell	Barbara Imel

Pauline B. Freeman Fund	\$47,000
Alderson-Broadbudd College	Melissa Holt-Mathis - Rhonda Mizer
Allegheny College	Danielle Stephens
Appalachian State University	Jennifer Bagent
Art Institute of Pittsburgh	Larry Renac
Ashland University	Angela Dayton
Baldwin Wallace College	Jeremy Keegan
Bowling Green University	Melissa Durbin
Capital University	Kelly Kauffman - Ashleigh Long - Amy Zelesnik
Central Ohio Technical College	Amy Fletcher
Cleveland Institute of Art	Marijane Campbell
Coastal Carolina University	Tiersa Cooper
College of Wooster	Joshua Wonders
Denison University	Christopher Colopy - Tara Rice
Indiana Wesleyan University	Amber Eads

John Carroll University	Michael Edgehouse
Malone College	Anna Hughes
Miami University	Kevin Kleinrichert - Elizabeth Royer
Mount Union College	Toby Boyce
Mount Vernon Nazarene College	Misty Downes - Julia Forster - Chris Kirkpatrick - Tonya Mickley - Benjamin Oxenford - Billie-Jo Sheldon - Rachel Smithhisler
Muskingum College	Gregg Looney
Ohio Northern University	Korey Kidwell - Matthew Pope - Scott Pope
Ohio Wesleyan University	Maureen McCardel
Otterbein College	Sunny Killina - Natalie Padula
Shawnee State University	Catherine Moore
The Ohio State University	Brandy Berry - Melissa Smith - Pauline Vales - Scott Forster - Nicholas Tharp
University of Akron	Kristy Meyers
University of Cincinnati	Kevin Renac - Brock Stull
University of Findlay	Erica Busch
University of Miami - Florida	Jon Kepko
Valparaiso University	Kurtis Frank
Washington University	William Johnson
West Virginia Business College	Sadie Croft
Westminster College	Josh Martin
Wilmington College	Debra Dugan
Unrestricted General Fund	\$35,000
Ashland University	Jennifer Elliot
Austin Peay State University	Carrie Beeman
Bluffton College	Melissa Martin
Capital University	Jamie Eisnuggle
College of Wooster	Katie Bomba - Amy Howell - Amanda Rardin
Denison University	Amy Landis
Heidelberg College	Nicole Staats
Hope College	Bryce Coffing
Malone College	Traci Nixon
Miami University	Nicole Oliver
Mount Vernon Nazarene College	Kyle Berry - James Van Winkle - Rodney Wilson
Muskingum College	Elaine Cochran - Bryan Donaldson
Northwestern University	Andrew Bodart
Ohio Northern University	David Fry, Jr. - Erica Harrison - Joshua Smith
Ohio University	Danya Ready
Otterbein College	John Brokaw, Jr.
The Ohio State University	Coreen Henry - Beth Moyer - Christopher Phillips - Lindsey Rice - Rick Stepp - Megan Grimm
University of Akron	Jeffrey Smith
University of Dayton	Staci Young
University of Michigan	Andrew Schlegel
Walsh University	Lisa Bunton
Wheaton College	Danielle Mickle
Wittenburg University	Rachel Gallogly
William S. Hunter Fund	\$1,000
The Ohio State University	Travis Kennedy
Rex M. Jr., and Barbara C. Lamb Fund	\$2,000
Case Western Reserve University	Jason Patterson
Gordon College	Cara Brandenburg
Harriett B. Lawler Fund	\$4,000
Hillsdale College	Amy Farnham
Miami University	Kelly Barnebey
Mount Vernon Nazarene College-Excell	Cheryl Studebaker
The Ohio State University	Daniel Andrzejewski

Robert and Evelyn Lee Fund	\$1,500
College of Wooster	Mary-Alice Rodstrom
Leedy Family Fund	\$2,000
Baldwin Wallace College	Stacey K. Porter
Frederick N. Lorey Journalism Scholarship	\$3,000
Brigham Young University	Jennifer Hansen
Kenyon College	Molly Harsh
Wittenberg University	Justin Dille
Ralph V. and Anna B. Mowery Fund	\$3,000
Bradford Business College	Katherine Smith
Columbus State Community College	Kyle Beck
Nursing Scholarship Funds	\$10,500
Capital University	Karla Hoffman
Central Ohio Technical College	Kimberly Steele - Brenda Vernon - Kimberly White
Knox County Career Center	Christopher Peugh - Cindy Zygadio
Malone College	Emily Johnson
Mansfield General School of Nursing	Karen Smith
North Central Tech College	Joann Platt
Otterbein College	Brandi McCluskey - Nicole Pratt
The Ohio State University	Lori Weiss
Richard Poling Fund	\$3,000
Bryan Mawr College	Adrea Lovejoy
Marietta College	Craig Stewart
University of Kentucky	Robyn Ready
William E. and Helen F. Pond Fund	\$600
Ohio University	Lisa C. Vela
Rick L. Scott Memorial Fund	\$1,500
Miami University	Suzanne Farmer - Chad D. Palmer
Strang Family Scholarship Fund	\$1,000
Ashland University	William Pursel
Charles M. Zelkowitz Community Service Award	\$1,000
University of Akron	Dustin Blubaugh
Prior Year Scholarships Refunded in 1997	\$(834)
Total Scholarship Grants	\$169,966

Gifts to the Trust – \$270,078

The cornerstone of the Mount Vernon Community Trust is people...people who wish to make a difference. In 1997, the following new funds were established by people who care about the community and who have chosen the Trust to help make a difference. We acknowledge the vision of these generous donors and express our gratitude on behalf of our entire community.

New Funds of the Trust

John L. Burgoon Memorial Fund	\$ 575
The Altrusa Club of Knox County Fund	5,000
A fund for the literacy, education, and improvement of the Knox County community.	
The Ariel Corporation Fund	50,000
A fund to be used at the discretion of the Distribution Committee.	
The George and Ruth Gelsanliter Memorial Fund	20,114
A fund created by their son, David, to equally support Hospice of Knox County and Interchurch Social Services with its income.	
The Robert T. Harnsberger Charitable Remainder Unitrust	28,931
A fund providing lifetime income to the donor and final distribution to charitable organizations.	
The Dr. Clyde and Dora Purdy Scholarship Fund	15,024
This fund will provide scholarships to Knox County students attending the College of Veterinary Medicine at The Ohio State University.	
The Dr. Clyde and Dora Purdy Fund	15,024
The income from this fund created by the Purdys will provide support to the Gay Street United Methodist Church.	
The William A. Stroud Fund	50,004
The income from this fund will be used to support parks and other recreational projects.	
The C. Watkins Family Fund	28,324
The income from this fund will support charitable organizations.	
Total New Funds	\$ 212,996

Additions to Existing Funds

Helen H. Cooke Fund	\$ 1,007
Kokosing Gap Trail	675
Richard I. Landers Fund	5,000
Leedy Family Fund	4,000
John and Genevieve Minor Fund	500
Ohio Junior Miss Scholarship Fund	18,400
Sanderson/Salisbury Fund	25,000
Rick L. Scott Memorial Fund	1,500
Perry and Louise Trinkner Fund	1,000
Total Additions To Existing Funds	57,082
Total Gifts	\$ 270,078

1997 Contributors to the Trust

Altrusa Club of Knox County	Dr. and Mrs. Emerson Laird	Mr. C. W. Salisbury
Ariel Corporation	Miss Arline Landers	Mr. William A. Stroud
Emmanuel Asercian/Mount Vernon Seventh Day Adventist Church	Mr. Russell Leedy	Dr. and Mrs. Perry Trinkner
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brown	Miss Ruth Leedy	Mr. and Mrs. Carlos E. Watkins
Helen Hope Cooke Estate	Madcap Memorial	John L. Burgoon Fund
Mr. David Gelsanliter	Mr. John Minor	Mr. Russell E. Leedy
Mr. Robert T. Harnsberger	Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Mullin	Mr. G. Dwight Lehman
	Dr. and Mrs. Clyde L. Purdy	Mr. and Mrs. George Lehman

Other Contributors to the Trust

Lucy E. Beckley	William A. Gower	Ohio Magazine
W. R. Bouton	Gregg Manufacturing Co.	David and Colleen Olsen
C. Monroe Bovard	Heaton Appliances	Fred A. Pond
James E. Brown	Icel Hensler	William E. Pond
Edmund F. Budd	Information Control Corp.	Dr. Gordon H. Pumphrey
Clyde G. Conley	Ralph M. Jewell	Purdy Sand and Gravel Co.
Lillian Conley	Christine Johnson	John and Agnes Rentz
Ruth E. Conley	Stanley E. Johnson, Jr.	John W. and Grace Rudin
Cooper-Bessemer Corp.	S. E. and Dorothy Johnson, Sr.	Anna M. Salisbury
Cooper-Bessemer Employees' Charities	K. Allin and Evelyn Kahl	Charles W. Salisbury
Wilma Craine Memorials	Mark C. Kinney	Robert W. and Doris Simpson
Mrs. L. Tate Cromley	M. Curtis Kinney	Edward Starr
George T. Culbertson, Jr.	T. O. Kuivinen	Mary Blanche Stucky
Cora D. Debes	Arline Landers	Fred A. Surlas
George E. Deeley	Rhea H. Larson	James W. Tighe & Son
Grover H. Detmer	Frederick N. and Genevieve Lorey	Frank J. Van Voorhis
Marjorie Dowds	Bert W. Martin	Wilbur D. Vernon
Dr. John C. and Helen Drake	Lorenzo D. Mathews, Jr.	Paul A. Warner
Kathryn Eastman	Curt H. Meltzer	Dr. Robert L. Westerheide
C. Floyd and Margaret Ellis	Louise Meltzer	Florence L. Westlake
Jack V. Fearn	Eugene L. and Doris Miller	Charles L. White
Dorothy Fletcher	William L. Moore	Ann Wilson Memorials
Geraldine Fowler	William Mosholder	Wise Jewelers, Inc.
Hewitt A. Gehres	Ohio Cumberland Gas, Co.	Helen E. Zerkowitz

Funds of the Trust – \$13,120,332

The Mount Vernon/Knox County Community Trust is grateful for the many gifts received in the past 53 years. The grant-making of the Trust is made possible by the 113 individual funds listed.

Unrestricted Funds

Ariel Corporation	\$ 50,165
Thomas D. Badger Memorial Fund	1,083
Frank L. and Anna Beam Fund	13,830
Henry L. and Alice M. Beecher Fund	5,201
Luke B. Biggs Fund	129,711
Ralph L. and Doris Boyer Fund	133,836
Charles F. Colville Fund	1,382
James H. Debes Fund	138,180
Jennie J. Debes Fund	204,224
Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Fairchild Fund	2,074
Harry and Lovella Foster Fund	101,761
General Fund of the Trust	1,943,747
Headington Family Fund	1,382
Dr. George and Lucile Imhoff Fund	1,563
Fred W. Kahl Fund	1,382
Knox County Savings Bank Fund	5,532
Lamb Glass Company Fund	6,913
R. M. Lamb Fund	1,382
Lawrence and Josephine Lewis Fund	27,150
The Mount Vernon Bridge Company Fund	10,373
Ohio Magazine Fund	3,176
Nancy J. Page Fund	163,012
Havilah Phelps Fund	5,276
Margaret Polahar Memorial Fund	2,795
Pond Motors Sales Fund	553
Rudin Company Fund	13,830
J. W. Rudin Jr. Fund	1,382
J. W. Rudin Sr. Fund	3,001
W. M. Rudin Fund	1,382
Sanderson-Salisbury Memorial Fund	31,214
Berta H. Schnebly Fund	19,942
Belle Shrontz Fund	843,815
Annie Sommerville Fund	1,382
Mrs. Walter Sperry Family Fund	3,882
Blanche Stevenson Fund	13,356
Harry Strodbeck Fund	1,382
Mary Blanche Stuckey Fund	12,619
Fred A. Surlas Fund	2,074
Zenno and Mae Taylor General Fund	370,533
Perry and Louise Trinker	7,001
Claude F. Turben Fund	1,382
Beatty B. Williams Memorial Fund	818,613
Edith H. Williams Memorial Fund	18,234
Lawrence F. and Ruby Williams Fund	266,995
Arthur C. and Ada B. Wolfe Fund	27,659
Jack Zeller Memorial Fund	1,102
Total Unrestricted Funds	\$ 5,416,463

Designated Funds

Ameriflora	\$ 123
Altrusa	5,301
Fred Barry, Jr. Scholarship Fund	34,922
Mildred Bennett Fund	45,211
Robert Black Fund	112,353
J. Gordon Bone, Jr. Student Aid Fund	499,181
J. Gordon Bone, Jr. Student Loan Fund	18,137
Sterling B. and Edna B. Braddock Fund	10,992
Chalmers Library Fund	194,149

Character Building Activities Fund	\$ 2,742
Garfield and Mazie Colgin Memorial Fund	86,547
Helen Hope Cooke Memorial Fund	644,231
George Culbertson, Jr. Memorial Fund	7,140
Jennie Debes Heart Fund	33,434
First Congregational United Church of Christ Fund	3,280
First Congregational United Church of Christ Building Fund	2,331
First Congregational United Church of Christ - Howard Tarr Fund	2,735
First Congregational United Church of Christ - Walter Starr Fund	2,677
Gelsanliter Family Fund	15,397
George and Ruth Gelsanliter Memorial Fund	20,114
George S. Gelsanliter YMCA Fund	150,662
Robert T. Harnsberger Charitable Remainder Unitrust	28,931
Ellen Heckler Memorial Fund	3,370
H. Grant Heckler Fund	5,182
W. Glenn Hess Fund	388,133
Zack T. Hollister Fund for Bird Cemetery	2,019
Interchurch Social Services Fund	82,670
Alice Jewell Memorial Fund	874
F. William Kahrl Fund	3,305
R. B. Kincaid Fund for the First Congregational United Church of Christ	47,452
Kiracofe Family Fund	10,359
Knox County Cancer Fund	1,983
Knox County Heart Fund	1,983
Knox County Historical Society Fund	3,942
Knox County Medical Society Scholarship Fund	1,151
Kokosing Gap Trail Fund	3,136
Richard I. Landers for Knox County Career Center	11,903
Harriett B. Lawler Fund	254,132
League of Friendship Fund	2,522
Peter and Alexandra Letz Fund	20,630
Ethel H. Lyman Memorial Fund	5,630
James K. Lyman Memorial Fund	277
John and Genevieve Minor Fund	1,478
Mount Vernon Academic Boosters	1,393
Mount Vernon Livestock Co-Operative Fund	3,010
Mount Vernon Theater Guild Fund	380
National Church Homes Inc., Fund	12,945
Ohio Junior Miss Scholarship Fund	15,220
William Pond Fund	397
Dr. Clyde and Dora Purdy Fund	15,024
Russell E. Ramser, Jr. Memorial Fund	5,399
Arthur and Grace Rawlinson Memorial Fund	27,553
Andy Rensing Fund	6,008
St. Paul's Episcopal Church Fund	1,052
Delbert C. Schmidt Fund	5,250
William A. Stroud Fund	50,004
Symposiarchs Fund	943
Zenno and Mae Taylor Fund for First Congregational United Church of Christ	63,142
Mae Taylor Fund for the Hannah Browning Home	11,514
Mae Taylor Fund for the Mount Vernon YMCA	31,415
United Way of Knox County Fund	114,864
William Kay Walker Memorial Fund	804
Martha Turner Walker Memorial Fund	1,042
C. Watkins Family Fund	28,324
James Robert Westerheide Memorial Fund	2,136
Amy F. Williams Memorial Fund	256,899
Beatty B. Williams Community Endowment Fund	255,725
Beatty B. Williams Library Fund	76,971
Beatty B. Williams for YMCA et. al.	336,596
YWCA Council Scholarship for Girls Fund	17,673
YMCA Endowment Fund	890,609
Total Designated Funds	\$ 5,005,013

Memorial Fund – \$1,705

The Memorial Fund of the Mount Vernon/Knox County Community Trust benefits the general purposes of the Trust. The fund is a composite of contributions made in memory of the following individuals and families:

Herbert L. Belden
John L. Burgoon
Clyde G. Conley

Leona Culbertson
H. Grant Heckler
John E. Mickley

John M. Miller
Jean Prosser
Paul E. Slaughter, Jr.

Scholarship Funds – \$2,697,151

Arck/Crowthers Fund	\$ 3,393
Robert C. Appleton Scholarship Fund	115,008
Clark and Lucy Biggs Scholarship Fund	230,428
Charles E. Cassaday Scholarship Fund	3,131
Helen H. Cooke Scholarship Fund	646,835
Harold "Cookie" Cunningham Fund	10,482
Fredericktown Academic Loan Fund	6,148
Pauline B. Freeman Scholarship Fund	821,539
Larry Hall Scholarship Fund	2,136
Lillian C. Hickman Scholarship Fund	401,638
William S. Hunter Scholarship Fund	15,785
Ethel Jamison Scholarship Fund	5,721
Ida Kohl Scholarship Fund	5,473
Rex M., Jr. and Barbara C. Lamb Scholarship Fund	50,653
Harriett B. Lawler Scholarship Fund	80,000
Robert and Evelyn Lee Scholarship Fund	10,513
Leedy Family Fund	2,000
Alexandra Letz Scholarship Fund	22,820
Alexandra Letz Nursing Scholarship Fund	11,904
Ralph V. and Anna B. Mowery Scholarship Fund	48,267
Edna Osborn Scholarship Fund	1,007
Arthur J. Packard, Jr. Memorial Fund	16,639
Richard Poling Scholarship Fund	63,542
William and Helen Pond Scholarship Fund	9,801
Dr. Clyde and Dora Purdy Scholarship Fund	15,024
Rick L. Scott Memorial Scholarship Fund	20,048
Richard and Regina Smythe Scholarship Fund	2,051
Strang Family Scholarship Fund	21,970
Student Scholarship Fund	353
William and Jennie Johnson Scholarship Fund	256
William Wing Music Scholarship Fund	13,909
Stephen W. Zerkowitz Ethics Scholarship Fund	12,945
Charles M. Zerkowitz Fund	11,774
Helen E. and Charles M. Zerkowitz Scholarship Fund	13,958
Total Scholarship Funds	\$ 2,697,151

Financial Statement

Condensed Report of Condition as of December 31, 1997

Taken from Report of Examination

By Dennis & Schisler, Inc. C.P.A.

Principal and Receipts

Beginning Balance (December 31, 1996)	\$ 12,493,281
Income	806,426
Realized Gains	290,664
Contributions	270,078
Beginning Balance Plus Receipts	\$ 13,860,449

Disbursements

Grants from Unrestricted Funds	\$ 197,480
Grants from Designated Funds	213,509
Scholarship Grants	169,966
Grants from Donor-Advised Funds	14,400
Expenses of the Trust	144,762
Total Disbursements	\$ 740,117
Ending Fund Balance (December 31, 1997)	\$ 13,120,332

The balances set forth on this schedule represent book values. The market value of the Trust as of December 31, 1997, totaled \$16,163,253.26.

Expenses of the Trust

First-Knox National Bank	
Administration Fee	\$ 30,215
Investment Advisory Fee	104,245
Odell Advertising	
Annual Report	4,496
Dennis & Schisler	
Audit and Tax Preparation	4,600
Others	
Miscellaneous	1,206
Total Expenses	\$ 144,762

Report of Accountants



Dennis & Schisler, Inc.
Certified Public Accountants

206 South Mulberry Street, Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050
Phone (614) 397-1721 Fax 397-7044

KENNETH E. DENNIS, CPA
LARRY A. SCHISLER, CPA
M. JACQUELINE STICHERT, CPA
JANICE M. COMPTON, CPA

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

The Mount Vernon Community Trust
Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050

We have audited the accompanying statement of investments of The Mount Vernon Community Trust as of December 31, 1997 and 1996 and the related statement of receipts and disbursements - cash basis for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Trust's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatements. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Mount Vernon Community Trust as of December 31, 1997 and 1996 and the receipts and disbursements of the Trust - cash basis for the years then ended in conformity with the cash basis of accounting, as described in Note A.

As described in Note A, the Trust accrued certain expenses in 1996, totalling \$50,000. If the expenses had not been recorded, the fund balance of the general fund would be increased by \$50,000 for the year ended December 31, 1996.

Dennis & Schisler, Inc.

Mount Vernon, Ohio
March 30, 1998

MEMBERS
American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
Ohio Society of Certified Public Accountants

An Endowment for All

What is the Community Trust?

The Trust is a community foundation—a nonprofit organization that supports charitable endeavors and worthy projects within a particular geographical area. In the case of the Trust, that area embraces all of Knox County, Ohio. Founded in 1944, the Trust has assets of more than \$13 million. These funds, donated by many individuals and families over the years, function as a community endowment—the principal is invested and protected; only the income is used.

What is the mission of the Trust?

The Trust seeks, broadly, to improve the quality of life in Knox County. It does this by giving grants to support projects in fields such as education, health, recreation, community planning and development, social services, culture, and the arts.

How does the Trust work?

A Distribution Committee consisting of five Knox County residents oversees the disbursement of grants. The Committee ensures that funds are used in accordance with the wishes of donors. In the case of “unrestricted” funds—those for which donors did not specify a purpose, the Committee makes grants based on community needs. Thus, the Trust functions in two ways; it serves as a vehicle through which donors can support the charitable causes of their choice and, it serves as a permanent, general endowment for Mount Vernon and Knox County.

What kinds of grants does the Trust give?

The Trust administers a substantial college scholarship program. Other grants support building funds, capital campaigns, and equipment purchases. The Trust also provides matching or challenge grants as well as seed money for charitable groups. Annual contributions are made to specific charities from funds designated by donors for that purpose. Occasionally, the Trust also coordinates fundraising drives for special community projects.

Who benefits from the Trust?

Dozens of community organizations have received support from the Trust. They include; the YMCA, the Public Library of Mount Vernon and Knox County, the city and county school systems, various recreational facilities in the county, the City of Mount Vernon, Moundbuilders Guidance Center, Station Break Senior Citizens' Center, Salvation Army, Interchurch Social Services, Hospice of Knox County, Knox County Airport, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Kenyon College, Mount Vernon Nazarene College, Memorial Building Theater, Knox County Agricultural Museum, and the Knox County Historical Museum. Through its grants to organizations like these, and through its scholarship program, the Community Trust touches the lives of thousands of residents throughout Knox County.

Why do people give to the Trust?

The Trust offers people an opportunity to contribute to the well-being of their community. Moreover, in giving through the Trust, donors know that their gifts will benefit future generations, because the Trust spends only the income from its investments. The original gifts are safeguarded. A gift to the Trust is thus a way of perpetuating one's own memory in the community or provides a lasting memorial for someone else.

How does somebody make a gift to the Trust?

Many donors include a bequest to the Trust in their wills, while some make contributions during their lifetime. Gifts can take the form of securities, real property, or other assets as cash. Donors may make designated gifts, specifying that the money benefit a particular organization or field of interest; or unrestricted gifts, which are used to meet a wide variety of community needs.

What are the practical advantages of giving to the Trust?

The Trust professionally and prudently manages all gifts, with the goal of ensuring that they will provide lasting benefits. If a donor's designated charity ceases to exist, the Trust will preserve the donor's intentions by directing the funds to a similar purpose. The Trust is a flexible tool that can handle gifts in many forms. Moreover, Trust supporters can take full advantage of the tax benefits available to donors.

1997 Distribution Committee

William A. Stroud, Chairman

Appointed by the joint action of Knox County Judge of the Court of Common Pleas and the Judge of the Probate Court

Maureen Buchwald, Vice Chairman

Appointed by the Directors of the Mount Vernon/Knox County Chamber of Commerce

John D. Ellis

Appointed by The City Council of Mount Vernon

Dennis L. Snyder

Appointed by National City Bank

Mark R. Ramser

Appointed by Directors of The First-Knox National Bank

Robert L. Rauzi, Secretary

Appointed by the Distribution Committee

Others Who Have Served On the Distribution Committee

J. Gordon Bone	C. R. Jones	John W. Rudin, Jr.
Clyde G. Conley	Frederick N. Lorey	Dr. Richard L. Smythe
Winslow Curry	Bert W. Martin	O. W. Stanley
Dr. John C. Drake	Thomas McDowell	Donald E. Steele
Dale E. Foster	E. L. Miller	Kenneth W. Stevenson
J. Abbott Herron	J. Robert Purdy	Beatty B. Williams
Stanley E. Johnson, Jr	John W. Rudin	Helen E. Zelkowitz

Past Secretaries

Fred Barry Jr.	James J. Cullers	Charles M. Zelkowitz
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Trustee

The First-Knox National Bank, Mount Vernon, Ohio
David L. Trautman, President and Chief Executive Officer
Ian Watson, Vice President and Trust Officer

Distribution Committee Members and Secretary serve without compensation.