

in the pipeline

NEWS FROM THE
BURTON D. MORGAN FOUNDATION

OCTOBER 2009

New Role For Retiring Trustee *Dick Chenoweth to become Trustee Emeritus*

Friends, family and colleagues gathered in mid-September to say goodbye to retiring Burton D. Morgan Foundation trustee Dick Chenoweth.

Mr. Chenoweth, who has served more than three decades as a Foundation



Fellow trustees congratulate Dick Chenoweth (third from left).

Photo by Doug Garmon

trustee, will officially retire from the board at the end of December. A dinner to honor him was set to coincide with the September meeting of the Foundation's trustees.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed our days together," trustee Stan Gault told Mr. Chenoweth and those who had gathered to honor him at the Portage Country Club. "We will never lose your very, very special friendship."

Richard A. Chenoweth was appointed to the Foundation Board in October, 1978. He is the longest serving trustee with the exception of John Frank, who joined the board in 1976. Frank also served as president of the Foundation until 2007.

"I appreciate all the support you've given me over the years," Frank said.

Deborah Hoover, who succeeded Frank as Foundation president, first worked with Chenoweth at the GAR Foundation, where he serves in a similar role. "He was the perfect teacher," she said.

At The Burton D. Morgan Foundation, she said, he is "the voice of reason."

"When our deliberations occasionally veer off course, he brings us right back to the center," she said. "Dick plays a critical role on this board, and his perspective will be sorely missed."

His wife, Chris, and several of the Chenoweth children and spouses attended the affair. In honor of his years of service, Dick Chenoweth has been named Trustee Emeritus, the first time such a designation has been made at this Foundation.

The guest of honor got the final say when he took the microphone to thank everyone. The group responded with a standing ovation.



Stan Gault offers his well-wishes.

Photo by Doug Garmon

Founded in 1967 by the late industrialist and entrepreneur Burton D. Morgan, the Foundation invests in projects that further its mission of preserving the free enterprise system.

The Foundation supports projects that nurture creativity, invention, entrepreneurship and innovation.

To that end, the Foundation invests in projects that fall into three life phases – starting with childhood, continuing through college and then into adulthood business activity.

For more information about deadlines and applying for a grant, visit our Web site.



Dear Friends of the Foundation...

This Foundation is blessed with a talented Board of Trustees, each member bringing unique talents and perspectives to the governance of the organization. We now honor Richard A. Chenoweth who will retire from the Board at year end. Mr. Chenoweth has served the Foundation with dedication and distinction for 31 years, roughly three quarters of our history. During this time, he has shepherded leadership transitions, foundation growth, strategic development and building renovation.

He brings to the Board a multitude of talents ranging from legal and business expertise to non profit knowledge, to unflappable deliberation and diplomacy skills. The Trustees have wisely designated Mr. Chenoweth as Trustee Emeritus and will undoubtedly continue to draw upon his many talents in the future.

From my personal perspective, I have worked closely with Mr. Chenoweth in connection with three different foundations: GAR Foundation, The Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation and The Burton D. Morgan Foundation. In each context, he has served as mentor, counselor and friend. In fact, Mr. Chenoweth was the mentor who guided me as a fledgling program officer, sending me off on my first site visit for GAR to the Hudson Presbyterian Church. As I peppered him with a million questions about the process, he assured me I would do just fine on my own and sent me on my way. He was right and as I have learned, he is usually right!

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to work with Mr. Chenoweth over the last 15 years on probably more than a thousand grant requests. I look forward to continuing the rich friendship we have shared. Thanks, cheers and warm wishes for Mr. Chenoweth from all of us at the Foundation!

Deborah D. Hoover, President

Grants Total More Than \$300,000

The Burton D. Morgan Foundation recently granted more than \$300,000 to promote entrepreneurship and entrepreneurship education in Northeast Ohio.

“Our September 2009 grants reflect the Foundation’s unwavering commitment to entrepreneurship and entrepreneurship education in Northeast Ohio,” Foundation President Deborah Hoover said. “We are working hard to maintain the momentum of increased interest in entrepreneurial activity despite the impact of the recession on the Foundation’s grantmaking capacity.”

Grants were awarded to the following organizations:

Foundation for Teaching Economics – \$42,500 to fund one *Economics for Leaders* camp for high school students at the College of Wooster in 2010.

Friends of E Prep Schools – \$65,500 to support the entrepreneurship curriculum at the public charter middle school in Cleveland during the 2009-2010 school year.

Junior Achievement of North Central Ohio, Inc. – Up to \$75,000 for JA programs about business, entrepreneurship and financial literacy in Summit, Wayne, Portage, Medina, Ashland, Coshocton, Holmes and Knox counties in the 2009-10 school year.

Boys and Girls Clubs of Cleveland – \$30,000 to provide *Money Matters*, a financial literacy program, at seven Cleveland sites during the 2009-10 school year.

Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley, Inc. – \$25,000 to provide the JA *Our Nation* program in 50 fifth-grade classrooms in Trumbull, Mahoning, Ashtabula and Columbiana counties in 2009-10.

Ohio Business Week Foundation – \$14,000 for scholarships and aid for at least 25 students from Summit, Wayne, Medina, Portage, Stark, Geauga and Cuyahoga counties to attend Ohio Business Week in 2010.

Akron SCORE – \$40,000 to help the group of retired executives recruit clients and volunteers to assist fledgling businesses in Summit, Portage, Wayne and Medina counties.

Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education – \$5,000 for the Youth Entrepreneurship Alliance operational expenses.

Hudson Job Search – Up to \$7,500 for operating support to help the organization that provides counseling and job placement advice for unemployed Hudson residents and churchgoers.

Hudson Community Foundation – \$5,000 to develop and conduct a research project to assess the economic impact of Taste of Hudson.



In late September, representatives of four Northeast Ohio Junior Achievement affiliates were invited to the Foundation’s office in Hudson to discuss best practices, metrics, and opportunities for collaboration. The foundation supports the JA groups, which provide programming in 23 counties. From left are organization presidents Michele Merkel of JA Mahoning Valley, David Best of JA North Central Ohio, Jody Levitt of JA East Central Ohio and Wendy Kinsey of JA Greater Cleveland.

Library Offers Entrepreneurial Know-how

A laid off office worker hoping to network and perhaps start a crafts business . . . a business owner taking notes for her daughter's new at-home pastry business in Wayne County. . . a retired civil servant from Cuyahoga County hoping to share his years of money-handling expertise with smaller local governments by becoming a consultant.

The Entrepreneurship and Small Business Series at the Hudson Library & Historical Society this fall has been attracting people with different visions of the future. Yet they are united by a single goal – to increase income, either by starting or expanding their small businesses.

According to Library Executive Director Leslie Polott, the feedback from those attending the September entrepreneurship workshops has been “amazing. The people have been very, very happy,” she said.

Polott said the sessions have been attracting more out-of-county residents than last year's entrepreneurship series. Attendance is up as well. The first three sessions averaged about 100 attendees each.

In late September, for instance, Jim Griggy, a certified business advisor from the Akron office of Ohio's Small Business Development Centers conducted a session on business basics. The workshop included information on how to calculate assets when starting a business, market planning, accounting, finding cash sources, financial projections, risk, and limiting risk.

“A business is not born in two seconds,” he told the audience.

Other speakers have included Robert Trebar, dean of management studies at Lake Erie College, and JumpStart CEO Ray Leach.

The lecture series is being sponsored by The Burton D. Morgan Center for Entrepreneurship Research at the



The Entrepreneurship and Small Business Series at the Hudson Library & Historical Society

library, with help from a Foundation grant. That same grant also enabled the library to purchase additional business-specific databases and upgrade its audio/visual equipment.

The lecture series continues into November. There is no charge, but reservations are required. To register, call 653-6658, Ext. 1010.

Future sessions include:

October 22 (7 p.m. Thursday)

Stephen Petras from the law firm of Baker Hostetler will discuss global business strategies.

November 4 (6:30 p.m. Wednesday)

Don Philabaum, president of Internet

Strategies Group, will discuss internet marketing strategies.

November 14 (9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Saturday) Small Business Tax Workshop. CPA Bob Fay will explain federal tax issues for small businesses, and Ohio Department of Taxation representatives will be on hand to discuss sales and income tax obligations to the state. (A box lunch will be available.)

November 19 (6:30 p.m. Thursday) Jim Griggy from the Ohio Small Business Development Center will explain how to write a business plan.

Career Panels Aim to Excite Students

The first of three 2009 Hudson Community First career panels kicked off Oct. 20 to an enthusiastic group of students and parents.

The panel at the Hudson High School media center was directed toward high school students interested in the fields of science and health care. Panelists included a dentist, chemist, pharmacist, physical therapist, family doctor, and sports medicine practitioner.

A second panel has been scheduled at the high school for Thursday, Dec. 3.

The focus will be on the arts, advertising and creative positions.

The last panel will be at Western Reserve Academy on Jan. 20 in the Chapel and will encompass careers in business, law, finance, and accounting.

The panels are made possible by a grant from The Burton D. Morgan Foundation to Hudson Community First. They are free and an effort by Community First to excite and enlighten high school students about future career choices.

Past Comes Alive at Baldwin House

The voices coming from the Baldwin House in early August reflected the talk of the day when the home was built. In 1832, the citizens of the United States were starting to polarize on the issue of slavery.

In 1837, just five years after the Baldwin House was built, a young John Brown stood up at a prayer



meeting at Hudson's First Congregational Church – just steps from the house – and spoke out publicly for the first time against slavery.

Twenty-two years later, this abolitionist who grew up in Hudson would storm the federal arsenal at Harper's Ferry and encourage the slaves to rebel. His victory was short-lived, and he was sentenced to die for treason.

Before his execution, John Brown wrote one last letter to his childhood friend from Hudson, Lora Case. He defended his actions and argued for an end to slavery. The 150-year-old letter was read from the porch of the Baldwin House as part



of the 2009 summer tour of *Porch Stories*, tales of this area's past told from Hudson porches.

Two actors from the Hudson Players – Gary Maher and Alex Nine – shared the role of the Baldwin House reader.

The
Burton D. Morgan
Foundation

Committed to the Free Enterprise System®

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