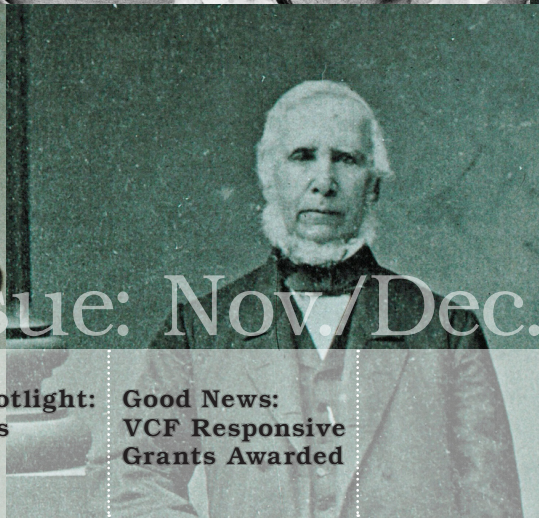
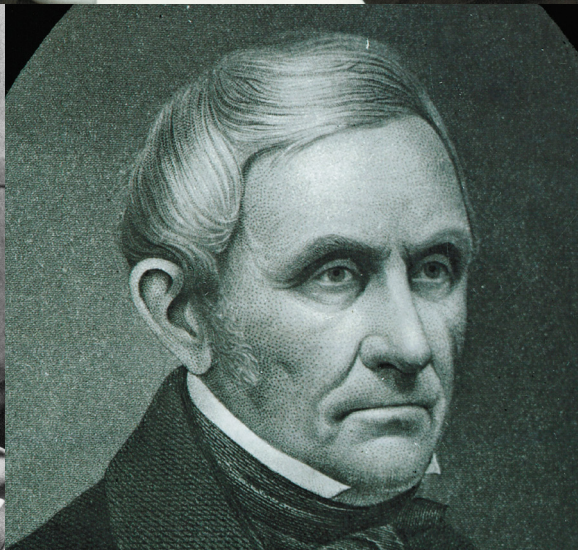
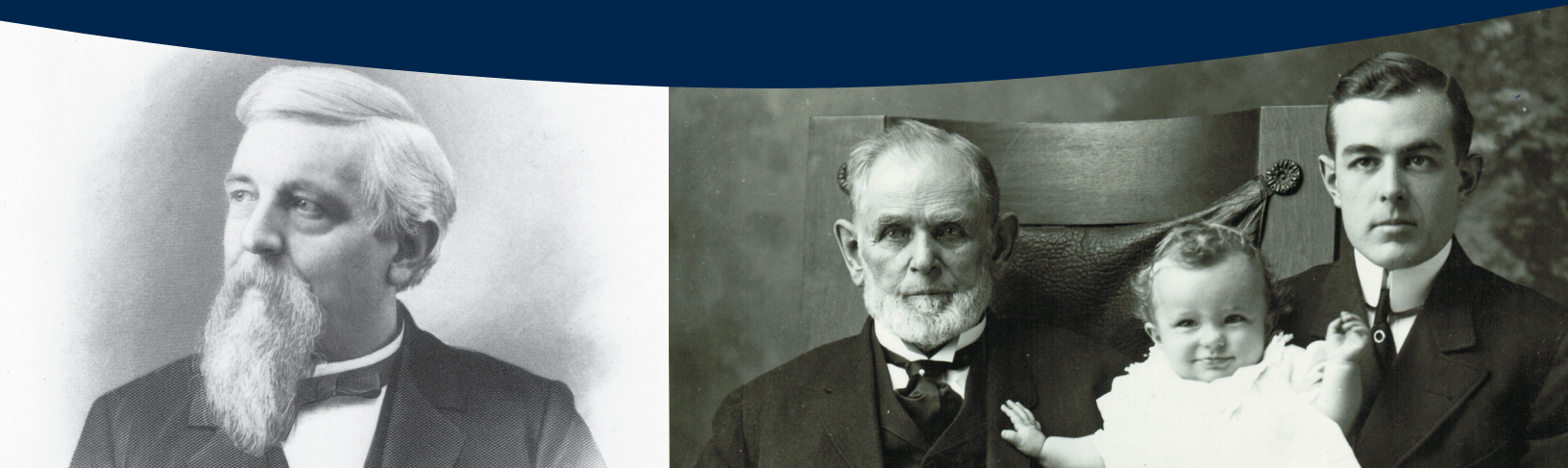


Legacy *Matters*



in this issue: Nov./Dec. 2014

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Valley**

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FOR GOOD FOR EVER FOR THE VALLEY

Smart Investment: *Giving Back to the Valley*

Front cover photos clockwise from top left: Wilbur Fisk Osborne, the Farrel family, Anson Phelps, Frances Osborne Kellogg, Sheldon Smith, George Griffin, Katharine Matthies and Rev. Julian A. Taylor (center).



Wilbur Fisk Osborne

At about the same time as Shelton was erecting the Plumb Memorial Library, plans for another public library were underway across the Housatonic River. Wilbur Fisk Osborne, the wealthy member of a prominent Derby manufacturing family, founded the Derby Neck Library first by donating the books and then by persuading Andrew Carnegie to help finance the construction of the building that is still in use today. Like Plumb, Osborne also died before seeing the new library open.



George Griffin & Bruce Griffing

George Griffin's family owned a Shelton factory that was the world's leading producer of horn buttons at the turn of the century. When he died in 1901, he left more than \$50,000 to construct a new building for the Derby Hospital. The trustees were so grateful, that they changed the hospital's name to honor the benefactor. His brother, Bruce Griffing, served as the president of Griffin Hospital for 20 years. Bruce willed a sizeable portion of his fortune to establish a trust fund for children's programs in Derby and Shelton. The fund continues to this day, supporting various local youth-serving organizations.

The Valley Community Foundation turned ten this year, marking a decade of community leadership, increasing local philanthropy, and support for organizations that lift up the lives of residents throughout the region. Looking forward to our continued growth in the coming decades, we draw strength from a spirit of generosity and civic mindedness that has been part of the Valley's identity for generations.

Sheldon Smith & Anson Phelps

The investment and drive of these two industrialists created a manufacturing center in what became Derby and Ansonia. They dammed the Naugatuck River and built a reservoir and canal to provide water power. And, they set aside a public commons that would become the Derby Green. Smith donated the land on the north and east sides of the new public commons for Methodist and Episcopal Churches, while Phelps donated land on the west side for the Congregational Church.

Gen. Charles H. Pine

Decades before vocational schools were common, Gen. Charles H. Pine left a portion of his fortune to establish a place to educate boys and girls seeking jobs in the trades. Pine grew up in a family of modest means to become the president of Ansonia National Bank, a director of various corporations, and speaker of the State House of Representatives. The Charles H. Pine Manual Training School building is now the home for a satellite location of the Boys and Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley.

Friend A. Russ

A leading Valley industrialist in the first half of the 20th century, Russ was a well-known benefactor of many institutions. In 1915, he presented the Derby Lodge of Elks with a check to pay off the mortgage on the building. A few years later he funded a new home for nurses with Griffin Hospital, in memory of his first wife, Mary Russ. He later created the Russ Fund, Inc., for the deserving needy of the community.

Katharine Matthies

The heiress to the family fortune, Matthies was active in the national, state and local societies of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and she served for many years on the Seymour Board of Library Directors. She participated in many charitable activities and supported several youth programs in her lifetime. When she died in 1987, Matthies left a trust in her estate to support social and community needs in Seymour and the Valley. The Foundation awards more than a half-million dollars annually.

Frances Osborne Kellogg

When she was only 31, the daughter of Wilbur Fisk Osborne took over the family's various businesses against the advice of the lawyers for the estate, and led them to new heights. Stern but compassionate, Kellogg was known to deliver groceries



Frances Osborne Kellogg and the Board of Directors for the Connecticut Forest and Park Association, 1930's

and coal to employees who were suffering hard times. She donated land along the river for the Derby Recreation Camp. Kellogg entrusted to the state her 350-acre farm which is now the Osbordale State Park and Osborne Homestead Museum. A portion of her estate left in trust to the Derby

Neck Library continues to fund the operations of both the Museum and the Library.

Rev. Julian Augustus Taylor

Serving Ansonia for 42 years as the pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church, the Rev. Taylor is credited with mentoring countless Ansonia residents, emphasizing the importance of education, racial equality and helping youth. The Rev. Taylor founded the Valley Branch of the NAACP in 1944. He helped to integrate the Valley YMCA at a time when racial segregation was prevalent and also founded the Junior NAACP. A scholarship at VCF honors his legacy of encouraging others to pursue their education.

Raymond Lavietes

The owner of Shelton Products, Shelton Plating Co. and founder of Derby Sponge Products, Lavietes was a civic and philanthropic leader. He was the founder and director of the Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley. When the old clubhouse burned down, he donated the property for a new building. He was also a director and president of the Derby-Shelton Community Chest, chairman of the Todd Scholarship Fund, and elected to the Junior Achievement Hall of Fame.

Special thanks to Randy Ritter, Jack Walsh, Patricia Sweeney and Paula Norton for assistance with locating source material. Photos provided by Derby Historical Society, Derby Neck Library and New Haven Register.

Read more about these Valley philanthropists, as well as Franklin Farrel III, Col. Holton Wood, David Wells Plumb, the Gates brothers and others at www.valleyfoundation.org.

Donor Spotlight: *The Jones Family*

"Our family giving occurs across several generations, and we wanted to put it under one umbrella."
– Terry Jones



Say the name "Jones" in the Valley, and there is an immediate, positive reaction. The Jones Family has been a special part of Valley history for more than 160 years, when Terry Jones' great-great-grandfather immigrated to Shelton. His motto, "Be good to the land, and the land will be good to you," has remained strong for seven generations of his family. The New England tradition to leave the woodpile a little higher than we found it is what led Terry and Jean Jones to create the Jones Family Farms Fund, a Donor Advised Fund, with VCF.

"Our family giving occurs across several generations, and we wanted to put it under one umbrella," said Terry Jones. "We each support charities that we are passionate about. Having this come together and be managed in the Valley really helped us decide to coalesce and focus our giving efforts. We love the Valley. There is such a sense of community here – the power and ethic of volunteering, of philanthropy, of the rich experiences of our schools, ethnic groups and way of life. There is such a diverse population, many of whom lived through the '55 flood, the BF Goodrich fire, and who have not only recovered but bounced back even stronger than ever before."

There are four generations of the Jones Family (all born in Griffin Hospital) currently living on the Shelton family homestead. "We've had enormous joy in having our family stay on the land," said

Terry. "There are many of us in different stages of life living together, which is an increasingly rare and wonderful experience for us all."

From early on, Terry Jones learned how important it was to give back to his community. "My grandmother single-handedly established a night school in the White Hills Civic Center and helped tutor immigrant families to improve their English. She saw the need, stepped in and served." Terry's father, Philip, was also actively involved in Shelton, especially as a member of the Plumb Library Board. Each generation of the Jones Family has brought the tradition of community involvement down to the next.

Both the Jones Family and the Farm support organizations that further the causes of farmland preservation, education, health and the arts, including Griffin Hospital, Center Stage, the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, Working Lands Alliance, Connecticut Forest and Parks Association among others.

"As farmers, we live by the philosophy that money is like cow manure – it must be spread around to do the most good. For us, that means working with VCF to create a multi-generational funding mechanism to focus on the wide range of groups, organizations and causes that we are most passionate about," said Terry.

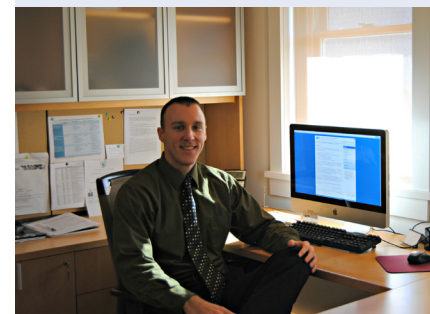
VCF Sponsored Events

Valley Council of Health and Human Services
Annual Meeting and Awards Presentation
December 2, 2014, 7:30 a.m.
at Grassy Hill Lodge in Derby.

Celebrate Shelton
Community Tree Lighting
December 6, 2014 5:30 p.m.
Veterans Memorial Park in Shelton

The International Institute of Connecticut
Annual Naturalization Ceremony
December 12, 2014, 11:00 a.m.
at the Klein Auditorium in Bridgeport.

VCF News



The Valley Community Foundation announces the addition of John Ready, as its new Donor Services and Development Officer. Mr. Ready was offered the position after an intensive regional search. He can be reached at jready@valleyfoundation.org or (203) 751-9162. Please join us in welcoming John to VCF.



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Good News About the Valley

The Valley Community Foundation recently awarded \$420,304 in single- and multi-year grants to the following nonprofits providing services to Valley residents:

Ansonia Public Schools to sustain and further develop the work of the **Human Relations Club of Ansonia and Derby**; \$16,600

Ansonia School Readiness — Discovery to support the continued implementation and enhancement of the Community Plan for Young Children; \$25,000

Area Congregations Together Inc. to provide general operating support for the provision of food, shelter and support services to Valley people in need; \$50,000

Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley to provide general operating support for cultural, recreational, physical, and educational programs to Valley youth, with a special emphasis on those children from disadvantaged backgrounds; \$105,000

Derby Early Childhood Council to provide coordination services for planning, implementation and

evaluation of programs aimed at examining the racial and economic barriers to student achievement and parent involvement in Derby; \$20,000

Valley Parish Nurse Program through Griffin Hospital, which provides health, educational and children's safety programs in the Valley Community; \$22,504

Literacy Volunteers of Greater New Haven to provide general operating support for adults to gain literacy skills; \$60,000

Shelton Economic Development Corporation to support a U.S. Economic Development Administration grant match requirement to administer the Naugatuck Valley Corridor Economic Development District and to implement a new 5-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy; \$40,000

Shelton Historical Society Inc. to provide general operating support for the preservation of items of Shelton's history, educational programming and the maintenance of a museum and its collections; \$45,000

Valley United Way to support the consolidation of software for managing

fund raising campaigns, allocations and outcomes measurement and volunteer services onto one software platform and move the services onto a collaborative cloud based system; \$9,200

Visiting Nurse Association of South Central Connecticut to support 24/7 on-call registered nurses to provide palliative care/home visits to clients in all Valley towns; \$12,000

Workplace Inc. to support Workplace Scholarships which provide job training and education funds for low-income individuals from the 5 Valley towns who cannot access public training funds; \$15,000

"These are all wonderful programs," says Sharon Closius, President & CEO of the Valley Community Foundation. "We are pleased to provide resources to the nonprofits doing great work in our Valley region to address some of today's most significant issues."

Grants were awarded through VCF's responsive grantmaking cycle, which is done with its partner in philanthropy The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven. For more information, please visit www.valleyfoundation.org.