

RECENT GIFTS TO THE FOUNDATION

New Funds: _____

The Ross and Eva Smith Donor Advised Fund

The Community Opportunity Fund: _____

From:

Peg Towers
Carol Flatten
Ed Curtis

In memory of:

Marjorie Eldredge
Marjorie Eldredge

Additions to Funds: _____

The Gisela Houseman Donor Advised Fund
The Ross and Eva Smith Donor Advised Fund

FOUNDATION FOR SOUTHEAST TEXAS

BOARD LIST 2010-2011

Charles Cox-President
Nancy Vincent-Vice president
John Wasser-Treasurer
Tammy Kotzur-Secretary
Sandra Benski-Past President

Elaine Allums	Kathleen Hardey
Pat Avery	Floyd McSpadden
A.B. Bernard	Bill Nickum
Vesta Brandt	Shawn Oubre
Rod Carroll	John Quigley
Gerald Condon	Mary Ann Reid
Shirlene Cook	Gail Shook
Shaun Davis	Suzanne Simmons
Joe Domino	Ross Smith
Robert Edgar	Wilton White
Chuck Ege	Jim Willis
Jason Fuller	

ADVISORY BOARD

Larry Beaulieu	Evelyn Lord
Gisela Houseman	Dean Robinson
David Hitt	Peg Towers

Carol Flatten - Executive Director

If you would like more information
please call 409- 833-5775

FOUNDATION FOR SOUTHEAST TEXAS

P.O. Box 3092
Beaumont, TX 77704
fax: (409) 833-7885
e-mail: carolflatten@cfsetx.org
www.cfsetx.org

The Foundation For Southeast Texas is a community Foundation providing management, investment and administration of funds given by many donors for numerous charitable purposes. The Foundation serves Hardin, Jefferson and Orange counties. The funds in the Foundation support activities focused primarily on local needs designated by the donors and the Board of Directors.

The Foundation is designated as a public charity. The Foundation of Texas will make its yearly audit and IRS Form 990 available for public inspection at its office by request. Call the office at 833-5775.

**THE ROSS AND EVA SMITH
DONOR ADVISED FUND**

The Foundation welcomes the new donor advised fund established by board member Ross Smith and his wife Eva. Ross and Eva are both natives of Southeast Texas and are deeply rooted in Orange County. They love the people, the culture and even the climate and would not want to live in any other place.



Ross is the owner, president and CEO of Akrotex. The Akrotex companies primarily service plastic and rubber industrial facilities. The Smiths feel blessed that the success of their business has allowed them to give to those in need in the community.

Ross and Eva believe that the Foundation is an excellent way for anyone to give to charities in the community. The donor establishes the fund and the Foundation does the work of investing the gift and making the grants to their chosen charities. Ross feels that the flexibility of the Foundation for Southeast Texas is one of its attractions. The donor can decide which specific charity or charities to gift or he may give an unrestricted gift and allow the board of the Foundation to decide where to direct the gift.

The Smiths have enriched to the community with their financial gifts and with their time having served on boards of the Salvation Army of Orange, the Lutcher Theater, the Chamber of Commerce, the Red Cross and Lamar State College-Orange.

Welcome again, Eva and Ross, as a fund donor, to the Foundation for Southeast Texas.



In Memoriam
Marjorie Eldredge

Alumni Board Member and Southeast Texas Leader

Marjorie Eldredge, charter board member of the Foundation passed away on October 26, 2010.

Marjorie joined the Board representing not only her beloved hometown of Silsbee, but all of Southeast Texas. She brought a wealth of experience to the board from her professional background and from her leadership and service in a variety of nonprofits. She knew the needs of the many diverse communities of our area from her volunteer work on Southeast Texas, Inc.

She used her talents on the Foundation's board by serving every year on the Grants Committee. During her nine years on the committee, she read and evaluated over 600 grant requests. With that committee, she also made numerous "site visits" to the grantees to evaluate their use of the funds. She was valued because of her past experience of writing for area newspapers. She knew the editors and would encourage them to print "our story" in the local newspapers.

We will miss this spirited, talented lady who gave so very much to the Foundation, to the community of Southeast Texas, and to her fellow board members.

COMPETITIVE GRANTS FOR 2011

Our grant packets for the 2011 competitive grant season will be available in local libraries in early January. Another easy way to get a packet is to call our office at 833-5775 and request the staff email you the packet. All grant applications must be delivered to our office or postmarked by March 3, 2011.

We are hoping for a record amount of funds to be available this year. If the economy continues to improve, we should have a better year in 2011 than in 2010.

This year, the Foundation awarded \$153,322 to 59 nonprofits in the three counties we serve. The average grant was \$2600, and the grants ranged from \$750 to \$5000.

Nonprofits that received a grant this year must mail in their report. If we do not receive their report by February 7, 2011, they will not be eligible to apply for competitive grants in 2011.

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY FOUNDATION?

Community foundations are independent, public charities that steward philanthropic resources from individual and institutional donors to community-based organizations. Community foundations strengthen communities by enabling people to create charitable funds that address a wide range of interests. Through visionary, diverse, and inclusive philanthropy, community foundations have become catalysts for significant community change.

There are more than 700 community foundations that operate in urban and rural areas throughout the United States. Most belong to the Council of Foundations, an association that promotes responsibility in giving and serves as a resource for foundations.

Community foundations accept nearly every type of asset including cash, real estate, stock and bonds. Gifts come from living donors and bequests through various types of funds and giving vehicles. In the U.S., community foundations nationwide hold over \$45 billion in assets. Community Foundations range in size, from those with over 2 billion in assets to those with \$100,000 or less. Community foundations invest in diverse and soundly managed portfolios.

Community Foundations play a key role in identifying and solving community problems. Each year billions of dollars are given to a variety of nonprofit activities that include the arts, education, health and human services, preservation, culture, conservation and disaster relief.

Community foundations offer donors many advantages. They work with individuals, families, attorneys, and estate and financial planners to design gift plans tailored to meet diverse economic situations, maximizing the benefit donors receive from their contributions as well as the impact of their philanthropic dollars.

The Foundation for Southeast Texas, established in 1997, has given two and a half million dollars to nonprofits from its 25 diverse funds. Its funds are invested conservatively, but the earnings have consistently beaten the benchmarks. It has been a partner with other funders in Southeast Texas to meet the varied needs of the community. The Foundation leases offices in its building at 700 North Street to fifteen nonprofits at below market rates, and also provides them with three meeting areas.

GRANT TO JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT FOR PROGRAM SUPPLIES

Valerie Williams, Junior Achievement volunteer, and First Grade class at Port Arthur Tyrrell Elementary School.

