



East Tennessee
FOUNDATION

Connect

Thoughtful giving for stronger communities, better lives

2017 Issue 1

Timely and Timeless Life-Changing Philanthropy Recognized and Celebrated

“I’m proud to announce our total assets are now over \$300 million – a perfect milestone for our 30th year.”

Our Annual Meeting recapping 2016 in January was bursting at the seams with a record number of guests, including firefighters representing 24 regional volunteer fire departments, who received a standing ovation for saving lives and property in Sevier County. We are grateful to our 2016 Johnson County Community Foundation grant recipient Junior Appalachian Musicians (JAM) for serenading us beautifully, East Tennessee Foundation (ETF) and Trinity Health Care Foundation Board member Avice Reid for giving the invocation, and 2016 Board Chair Jeff Becker for introducing new and retiring board members.

It was fitting that we broke another attendance record, especially with 300 people present, because I proudly announced our total assets are now over \$300 million - the perfect milestone for our 30th year. With over 425 funds, we accepted \$13.2 million in gifts in 2016, with \$3 million in December alone. What I am most proud of though is the nearly \$13 million in grants we made in 2016, bringing our 30 year grant investment in the region to \$238 million. As we celebrated our 30th year by spreading the message of the power and importance of family philanthropy, I was struck over and over by the fact that smart, effective, life-changing philanthropy is timely, and, if we do it right (and I believe we do), it is also timeless.

As final reports submitted by 86 grantee organizations in 19 of our 25 counties indicate, easily 90,000 lives were touched and improved by a timely ETF grant. From veterans suffering from PTSD receiving a handmade Quilt of Valor in McMinn County to help in their healing process and Knoxville Symphony Orchestra’s Music and Wellness Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

program providing training for music therapy visits in the NICU to our CNS Y-12 corporate donor advised fund grant to Smoky Mountain Service dogs providing support for a “boot camp” where 5 disabled veterans were placed with 5 specially trained canine companions and our Neighbor to Neighbor Fund grants to 24 regional volunteer fire departments, we saw examples of timeless, life-changing philanthropy occur.

In our 30 years, more than 1,000 students have received an ETF scholarship, and perhaps the best example of the timelessness of our work is how a scholarship first changes one life and then potentially many others. Last year we set new records with 178 students attending 42 different colleges and universities.

Whether you are one of the 223 volunteers who served on a scholarship selection committee, the hundreds who served on grants panels, a board or committee member, or one of our 425 fundholders, you know from your own experience that it’s not just the grant recipient whose life is changed; yours is too. It is the best way that we are timeless in our work. As we move into this new age 2017 and beyond, ETF stands ready to be a source for you of facts, policy, ideas, inspiration, and the story of lives changed, as you will read in this edition of Connect. I hope you enjoy...and I thank you for being part of the impact we celebrated.

Mike McClamroch
*East Tennessee Foundation
President and CEO*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Disaster, Response, and Recovery
Pat Summitt Foundation
New Board Introductions
What You Can Do for Your Community



East Tennessee
FOUNDATION

Disaster, Response, and Recovery in East Tennessee

During a management team discussion mid-November 2016, East

Tennessee Foundation was moved to support our many fire and rescue teams, mostly volunteers, who had been battling wildfires across East Tennessee since spring 2016. By this time, over 800 wildfires had burned across our state and daily we were faced with “code red” air-quality conditions.

Trudy Hughes, Director of Regional Advancement, had already begun



the investigative work to determine how to best allocate the funds from our Neighbor to Neighbor Disaster Relief Fund. Less than a week later, on November 28, 2016, the unimaginable occurred. Wildfire and wind combined to scorch hundreds of acres, drive thousands from their homes, businesses, and vacation rentals, and cut short the lives of 14 people. ETF knew we would need to provide even more help to fire and rescue teams-plus others.

We launched the campaign to raise additional funds for our Neighbor to Neighbor Disaster Relief Fund. Additionally, Joe Baker, Ole Smoky Moonshine co-founder, knew the recovery would be long and arduous

in Sevier County and took action. He contacted former Tennessee State Supreme Court Chief Justice Gary Wade, a member of the ETF Board of Directors, to learn how best to help his community and people. “Ole Smoky Distillery was fortunate to encounter no damage from the fire; we want to help restore our community to welcome neighbors and tourists back,” Baker told him. Chief Justice Wade encouraged Baker to work with ETF to establish an endowed fund which will help not only now but in perpetuity, addressing restoration and relief needs as well as community needs.

Following overnight, our neighbors in McMinn County were struck with a devastating tornado. Our 2017 Board Chair, Paul Willson, resides and works in McMinn County where our affiliate community fund, McMinn Community Fund, is already in existence and prepared to assist when needed. ETF immediately positioned a link on our website to provide prominence and ease for donors desiring to support the needs of McMinn County.

A total of \$290,000 in grants have been awarded so far in 2017.

BY THE NUMBERS

Sevier County Community Fund

Raised to date: \$515,000

Sevier County Community Fund

Awarded to date: \$184,000 to the

**Gatlinburg Chamber of Commerce
Foundation and**

Sevier County Fire and Rescue

Neighbor to Neighbor Disaster Relief

Grants Awarded to Fire and Rescue

Departments: \$106,000

Anderson County

Hamblen County

Blount County

Cocke County

Loudon County

Monroe County

Sullivan County

Firefighters and First Responders Represented at ETF Annual Meeting



PAT SUMMITT FOUNDATION



Pat Summitt Clinic Officially Opens

- The Pat Summitt Clinic officially opened its doors - on schedule - at the University of Tennessee Medical Center in December 2017.
- The clinic delivers patient care, provides caregiver resources, and conducts clinical research trials in search of treatment and a cure for Alzheimer's disease.
- The clinic is led by Medical Director, Dr. Roberto Fernandez, a nationally recognized neurologist, researcher, and leading expert on Alzheimer's disease.
- The Pat Summitt Clinic was formed by a partnership between the Pat Summitt Foundation and the University of Tennessee Medical Center.

“Pat’s vision for the Pat Summitt Foundation was to make a difference in this disease starting here in East Tennessee through funding of education, patient and caregiver care, and clinical research,” said Pat Summitt Foundation advisory board chairman, James A. Haslam, II. *“The opening of the Pat Summitt Clinic at the University of Tennessee Medical Center is a realization of that vision that will have an impact on thousands of lives now and in the years to come.”*

To join Pat’s team, visit:
www.patsummitt.org



Members of the Pat Summitt Foundation advisory board presented representatives of the UT Medical Center a check of \$600,000 on the court which bears Pat Summitt’s name at the “We Back Pat” Lady Vols basketball game on January 16th. This was the second annual grant payment of a 5-year, \$2.5 million commitment made by the PSF to the UTMC to help support the Pat Summitt Clinic. The annual payment is usually \$500,000 but this year’s was \$600,000 thanks to a couple of special, one-time fundraising promotions held in 2016. The Pat Summitt Foundation and the Pat Summitt Clinic received extensive local and national media coverage during “We Back Pat” Week (January 16 – 23), including daily features shown on ESPN.

Upcoming Events

- Salute for a Cure - Knoxville, TN - April 20, 2017
- The Pat Summitt Invitational at Spring Creek Ranch - Memphis, TN - May 8, 2017
- Chattanooga Golf Tournament - Chattanooga, TN - TBD
- Nashville Alzheimer’s Golf Classic - Brentwood, TN - June 4 & 5, 2017
- Forget Me Not 5K - Knoxville, TN - August 19, 2017
- Taste of Turkey Creek - Knoxville, TN - September 8, 2017
- Bristol Golf Tournament - Bristol, VA - September 18, 2017
- The Pat Summitt Invitational at Wind River - Lenoir City, TN - October 16, 2017



Lisa Bingham was born in Monroe County and grew up in Madisonville. She has a Fine Arts Degree from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. She started her business, the Bingham Group, as a design group, and it has grown to a full service advertising agency. Her company also publishes 16 magazines a year, including the State of Tennessee Wildlife Hunting, Fishing and Waterfowl guides. She serves on the boards of CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates for foster kids) and the Boys and Girls Club in Monroe County. The Bingham Group moved what was the Pellissippi State Community College balloon festival to Monroe County. It is now a fundraiser for CASA. Lisa's favorite quote by John Wesley, "Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can." She enjoys hiking, painting, and spending time with family. Lisa has three daughters and enjoys owning her business. She believes philanthropy is important as a way of demonstrating gratitude for the blessings God has provided her. Lisa and her husband, Joe, met while she was in college at Hiwassee. After graduation from UT, they were married and lived in Sweetwater for 8 years. They have been married for 30 years.

David Bradshaw

is a native of Knoxville and graduated as Valedictorian of his Karns High School class of 1985. He went on to receive his undergraduate degree in Industrial Engineering and an MBA from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. From 1991 – 2000, David worked as an Industrial Engineer at Y-12. In an effort to assist with the movement of technology from the facilities in Oak Ridge to the private sector, David became a loaned executive to Technology 2020. In 2007, he was recruited as the Anderson/Roane County President for SunTrust Bank. In 2011, he accepted the position as EVP and Oak Ridge President for CapitalMark Bank & Trust, which merged with Pinnacle Financial Partners in 2016 where he continues to manage their Oak Ridge area. While maintaining full-time employment, David served as mayor *pro tem* in Oak Ridge from 1995 until 2001 and mayor from 2001 until 2007. David currently serves as the VP of the Oak Ridge Playhouse board of directors, Chairman of the Wesley Woods United Methodist Church Camp board, and as a board member of Roane State Community College Foundation, Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee, and the Children's Advocacy Center of Anderson County. David and his wife, Sandra, have two daughters (Caroline and Elizabeth). His hobbies also include traveling/camping with his family and researching Oak Ridge history. David hopes to live out what Roman poet Ovid said, "Add a little to little



and there will be a great heap." – When you apply this to your saving or philanthropic efforts, no matter your means, what your lifetime of effort accumulates is substantial!

Tom Fisher

grew up in Long Island, New York, moved to Atlanta in 1979, and was recruited by a local CPA/consulting firm to move to Knoxville in 1988. He received a BS from St. John Fisher College in Rochester, New York. Tom is a CPA and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Healthcare Financial Management Association. He is currently the SVP and CFO of the University of Tennessee Medical Center. In this role he is responsible for the areas of financial accounting, supply chain, information systems, revenue cycle, managed care, and decision support. Tom usually gets straight to the point and he possesses a dry wit. For example, his favorite quote is, "No cash, no mission!" He served on the board of InterFaith Health Clinic for 25 years and is currently serving on the boards of QSource (Memphis) and Capstone Health Alliance (Asheville). His hobbies include cycling, mountain biking, and golf.



Meet our New Board Members on Pages 4 – 6

Keith Gray, M.D.

graduated *Cum Laude* from Wake Forest University and earned his medical degree from Wake Forest University. He



completed his residency and surgical research fellowship at Vanderbilt University Medical Center before completing his surgical oncology fellowship training at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. In addition, he received an MBA from the University of Tennessee Haslam College of Business in December 2014 where he served as class president, was voted Physician Leader of the Year, and delivered the college's graduation address. He joined the University of Tennessee Medical Center in 2007 and has served as Chief of Staff, founded the Pancreas and Liver Service of East Tennessee, and co-founded the Physician Leadership Academy which focuses on physician development beyond the clinical components and into the business side of medicine. Currently, he is Associate Professor and Chief of the Division of Surgical Oncology, Medical Director of the Gastrointestinal Tumor Service (GITS), and most recently, he was named UT Medical Center's Director of Physician Leadership Development. He and his wife, Kala, enjoy spending time with their 5 children.

Ellen Markman

was born in Gallatin, Tennessee but she also lived in Roanoke, Virginia and



Stamford, Connecticut prior to moving to Knoxville as a high school senior. She has a degree in Interior Design and practiced for a time before her children were born. Subsequently she focused on community volunteerism and caring for her family full-time. She is a volunteer and serves on the boards of Knoxville Jewish Day School and Temple Beth El. She formerly served as a member of the Community School of the Arts. Spending time with her family (especially her 3 grandchildren!!), reading, and knitting are some of her favorite pastimes. You might also be surprised to learn that she strings pearls! Being available when needed and lending a helping hand is central to who she is.

Alice Mercer

was born in Birmingham, Alabama. As an adult, she lived in Alabama, Georgia, Virginia,



and Tennessee. She and her husband moved to Knoxville 27 years ago because of his job. Alice worked and taught at the university level, with a focus on healthcare management, public health, and research. She is now a full-time volunteer. She serves as a volunteer for Westminster Presbyterian Church, the Women's Fund of East Tennessee, University of Tennessee Gardens, Master Gardener groups, and Fish of Knox County. In addition, she has served ETF in numerous capacities, including as Board Chair in 2012 and 2013. Her favorite leisure activities include walking, birding, gardening, reading, and organizing. She is a music connoisseur and is thrilled to enjoy all genres. She also enjoys watching documentary bird videos via the internet. Her favorites are of hatching eaglets and owls. Her words of wisdom in life are, "Life is not linear but has many paths, so don't get lost." She is so glad to be involved in philanthropy and finds it an important way to express her gratitude for her own life by the opportunity to help others.

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gorgeous view of
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tour, contact Deborah
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524-1223 or email
dphillips@etf.org.

Thoughtful giving for



Senator Doug Overbey was born and raised in Kingsport, Tennessee, and came to Knoxville to attend law school at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville following his graduation from Carson-Newman University. He maintains a private practice of law in Knoxville with the firm of Robertson Overbey. He currently serves as a board member of Presbyterian Homes of Tennessee, Inc., and Tennessee Intercollegiate State Legislature, and is a founding board member of A Secret Safe Place for Newborns of Tennessee. He recently rotated off the boards of Maryville College and New Hope-Blount County Children's Advocacy Center. His favorite quote by General Douglas McArthur is, "A true leader has the confidence to stand alone, the courage to make tough decisions, and the compassion to listen to the needs of others. He does not set out to be a leader, but becomes one by the equality of his actions and the integrity of his intent." Senator Overbey also believes to fully participate in a community includes giving of one's time, abilities, and financial resources. He was recently inducted into the Boys and Girls Club's Blount County Hall of Fame. In his leisure time, Senator Overbey enjoys reading, golf, yoga each morning, and playing with his grandchildren.

Cassandra Stuart was born in Chicago, Illinois. Through the years, she has also lived in Columbus, Ohio, Atlanta, Georgia, Nashville, and Cookeville, Tennessee. She originally landed in Knoxville to attend the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and later returned for a job with WBIR-TV. Currently, she is the Manager of the Small Business Program at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. She has served on many local boards and is currently the Secretary of the Knox County Election Commission, and of the Knoxville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She also recently chaired the Black History Month Committee at ORNL. She is married to a former University of Tennessee football player and her home is ALL VOL!! We know her blood runs orange, and she loves traveling, and spending time with her family. She believes people should always share their gifts with others, monetarily and otherwise. She says, "It's simply the right thing to do."



Carol Transou was born in Nashville and grew up in Middle Tennessee. Her husband's job brought them to live in Johnson City. She was a much-loved and admired high school history teacher for 27 years. She was awarded the Tennessee Teacher of the Year Award in 1987 and the National Endowment for the Humanities Teacher-Scholar Award in 1988. In 2015, she was inducted into the Tennessee Women's Hall of Fame. Early on she was awarded the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship at Vanderbilt University that provides graduate study for teachers. She retired early to be more active in philanthropy and community. She volunteers at the United Methodist Church where she is a member and serves on the Board of the Women's Fund of East Tennessee. She has served ETF in many capacities with multiple board terms. She looks to philanthropy to provide solutions for today's world issues and feels it is meaningful for her to give back. She is confident in the work of ETF, its leadership, and its ability to partner in communities to make good things happen for stronger communities.



STAFF CELEBRATIONS



Jeff Becker thanked Mike McClamroch for his 15 years of service as President & CEO with East Tennessee Foundation



Jan Elston (L) celebrated her belated 15 year anniversary and Jackie Lane (R) celebrated her retirement after 14 years with East Tennessee Foundation

ADVANCEMENT

What You Can Do for Your Community

“The federal charitable income tax deduction turns 100 years old and has been much discussed in current tax reform proposals.”

At our Annual Meeting in January, we reported on East Tennessee Foundation’s 30th anniversary in 2016 and how we celebrated by promoting family philanthropy. This year, we celebrate a larger anniversary: the income tax charitable deduction in the federal tax code turns 100 years old! Only four years younger than the federal income tax itself, the charitable deduction has been much discussed lately. In response to tax reform proposals that lower marginal income tax rates and cap total deductions, nonprofit advocacy groups seek to expand the charitable deduction to all taxpayers, rather than only those who itemize their deductions. The future of the nonprofit sector of our economy may hang in the balance on the outcome of this debate.

The charitable deduction is important to Tennesseans, who give generously to charities. According to data from several sources in reports compiled by the nonprofit advocacy group, Independent Sector, more than two-thirds of taxpayers give to charitable causes each year, but only about 30% of taxpayers itemize their deductions¹. Taxpayers who gave to charity and itemized their deductions gave 82% of the \$265 billion given by individuals in 2015². Tennesseans give almost \$3.8 billion annually to charities, representing 4.63% of

household income³. The charitable deduction may not be THE motivation for charitable gifts, but it powerfully impacts the amount that donors give to charity.

Tax reform proposals, government spending cuts, and increasing demand could cripple the nonprofit sector. Nationally, the nonprofit sector is the third largest workforce in the country, employing 10.3% of the private sector workforce; in Tennessee, it employs 8.5% of the workforce⁴. Estimates indicate President Trump’s plan to double the standard deduction and impose a \$200,000 cap on total deductions for married joint filers (\$100,000 for single taxpayers) would reduce charitable giving in the range of 4.5% to 9%, or \$17 to \$34 billion⁵. With both President Trump and the Republicans in Congress proposing dramatic cuts to federal spending, particularly for social services, environmental protection, and the arts, the nonprofit sector will likely face increasing demand for services that coincides with decreased federal funding, resulting in a dire need for private funding to fill the gaps.

Every dollar of tax saved by a donor produces \$2.50 of benefit to communities and people in need⁶. Please ask your congressional representative and senators to protect and extend the charitable deduction and encourage giving to charities. East Tennessee needs you!

Sherri Alley, J. D.
*East Tennessee Foundation
Vice President for Advancement*

1 Independent Sector, “Talking Points: Preserving and Expanding the Charitable Deduction,” available at: www.independentsector.org/resource

2 Id.

3 Independent Sector, “State Profiles: The Economic Value and Impact of the Charitable Community,” (Tennessee) available at: www.independentsector.org/resource.

4 Independent Sector, “America’s Nonprofit Sector- Impact,” available at www.independentsector.org/resource and Tennessee State Profile (see FN 2 above).

5 Independent Sector, “Talking Points...” (see FN 1 above).

6 Id.

For information on tax proposals and how charitable organizations may be impacted, visit:

www.taxfoundation.org
www.independentsector.org

Personal Service

Accessible and committed to tailoring charitable giving to the donor’s wishes

Local Expertise

With in-depth understanding of issues, opportunities, and resources that shape our community

Community Leadership

Convening diverse voices to build community

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Confirmed in Compliance with National Standards
 for U.S. Community Foundations

East Tennessee Foundation is a public, nonprofit, community foundation created for the purpose of building charitable resources to make communities stronger and lives better through thoughtful giving.

**Has your contact information changed?
 If so, please let us know so we can keep in touch.**



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| Keith Gray | Gary Wade |
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**East Tennessee Foundation respects, celebrates, and encourages diversity
 that positively contributes to our healthy and caring community.**