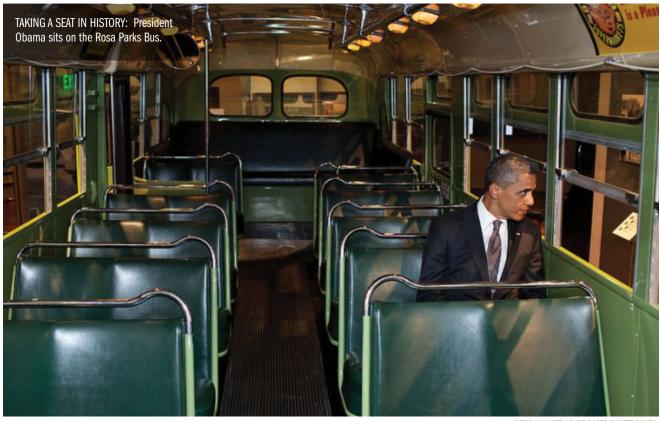


# HENRY FORD EFFE



# A Seat on the Bus for Everyone

#### A LETTER FROM THE HENRY FORD PRESIDENT

Dear Friends:

One of the highlights of my career here at The Henry Ford occurred last spring, when the president of the United States visited us and spent a few solitary and poignant moments on the Rosa Parks Bus.

"I just sat there for a moment," he said afterward, "and pondered the courage and tenacity that is part of our very recent history but is also part of that long line of folks who sometimes are nameless, oftentimes didn't make the history books, but who constantly insisted on their dignity, their share of the American dream."

Those sentiments are a true reflection of what The Henry Ford is all about — to seek out and tell the great American stories of innovation, ingenuity and resourcefulness, so many of which begin with a simple idea and are bolstered by inspirational examples of tenacity, will and the stark power of belief and the human spirit. All those qualities come to the fore in the story of Rosa Parks, whose stoic dignity and steely courage in refusing to move to the back of the bus on that December day in 1955 launched the revolution in American race relations that ultimately made possible the election of an African American as president in 2008.

So that iconic bus is not only a symbol of the sacred concept of freedom and democracy in our country, but it also represents the essence of our mission at The Henry Ford: You don't have to be the president of the United States to sit on the Rosa Parks Bus. We offer that immersive opportunity to anyone who walks through our doors. And because we're a collecting institution as well as a destination and an attraction for American history, we rely on the support and devotion of our generous donors and members to provide the funds that allow us to continue to collect the artifacts, like that bus, which make The Henry Ford such a unique and special place.

It is with a tremendous amount of gratitude that I take this opportunity to acknowledge those who comprise our Donor Roll, which we've included in this edition of The Henry Ford Effect. All of our donors are so precious to us and so valuable to this institution, and we simply wouldn't exist in our current state if not for all of you.

We work very hard not only to show our thanks at all times but to demonstrate that we are good and responsible stewards of our donors' investments, and that every last penny of it is utilized in our unrelenting effort to inspire

people to help make a better future, maybe even change the world!

In these pages, you'll read about Bruce and Ann Bachmann, whose lifelong devotion to The Henry Ford, coupled with their passion for studio glass, has resulted in a unique gift that is sure to amaze, educate and inspire visitors for years to come.

It was a similar passion — for racing and a boyhood fascination with driver Jim Clark — that compelled Chris Locke to make his donation to support Racing in America, in honor of Clark.

And then there's the fascinating and touching story of Jerome Lothamer, whose gift annuity is inspired by his family's connection to Henry Ford himself and two of the iconic buildings in Greenfield Village — the Scotch Settlement School and Chapman House.

Speaking of Henry Ford, one of his very first and most important decisions was to build iron-making facilities on the banks of the Rouge River, just down the road in Dearborn. The furnaces and towers of the Severstal plant have been a vital part of the city landscape ever since, and I am delighted to announce in this issue that The Henry Ford and Severstal are now very proud community and sponsorship partners.

Finally, thanks to a generous grant from the Ford Foundation ArtsAccess Program, a wonderful, unrestricted donation over a two-year period will be invaluable in the ongoing operation and delivery of our mission to the 1.5 million people who walk through our doors on an annual basis. We are so honored to be recognized by this organization, which has been on the forefront of social change and focused on the betterment of humanity for more than 75 years.

Which brings me back to my initial thoughts about that special lady and her historic bus.

Ours is truly a place for everyone — from the president of the United States to the most generous donors and we are so grateful to all those whose thoughtful and heartfelt contributions really do reflect what we are all about: Anyone can walk through our doors and immerse themselves in all that is here. Chances are they'll take away an experience that will stay with them forever.

Because here at The Henry Ford there really is a seat on the bus for everyone.

Patricia E. Mooradian

The iconic bus in which Rosa Parks famously took a seat.



A Lifelong Passion Leads to a Generous Gift



A Passion for Glass A Shared Commitment to **Improving Minds and Lives** 

#### PAGE 4-11

**Severstal Partners with** The Henry Ford **Financial Report and Donor Roll** 



Family Ties Lead to a **Lasting Legacy** 

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The Henry Ford is sparking imaginations nationwide with INNOVATION 101, an educational collaboration with our country's greatest innovators. including Bill Gates, Dean Kamen and Steve Wozniak. Learn more @ ONINNOVATION.COM.



## Chris Locke sits on his car at the 2 THE HENRY FORD EFFECT A Lifelong **Passion** Leads to a Generous Gift

The opportunity to help support the Racing in America exhibition at The Henry Ford and recognize the incredible achievements of Jim Clark, Ford and Lotus, embodied in the Indianapolis-winning Lotus 38, is a fitting tribute."

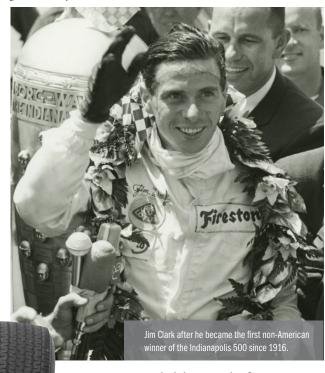
CHRIS LOCKE

Chris Locke truly can't recall a moment in his life when he wasn't passionate about all aspects of motor sports — from the design and construction of the cars to the demeanor and styles of the drivers.

"The genesis is not entirely clear, but it seems I've had this passion for motor sports since birth," he says.

Locke followed Formula One, Indy, Le Mans, Can Am and sports car racing but was especially inspired by Team Lotus owner and designer Colin Chapman and his Scottish driver Jim Clark.

"I remember Jim Clark as being incredibly skillful and successful, but also very humble," Locke recalls, "and that was impressive to me as a boy. He was kind of a role model for me, and combined with Colin Chapman's innovative genius, they were unbeatable."



In 1965, Clark became the first non-American winner of the Indianapolis 500 since 1916, and Locke's interest in both the driver and the Lotus marque was piqued during a visit with his parents to the New York World's Fair in 1965 when he was just 12 years old.

"We went to the Ford Pavilion," he says, "and I saw the Lotus 38 that Jim Clark had driven to victory in the Indianapolis 500. I'd

> never seen a single-seat, open-wheel race car up close and in person until I saw that exhibition, and I had never imagined a race car to be so sleek and compact and purposeful as that design. It was really beyond belief to me, and the exhibition left a very significant and lasting impression."

That experience as well as his lifelong admiration for Clark — who died tragically in a crash in 1968 — were significant factors that led Locke to make a donation in honor of Clark to support Racing in America. Clark's Lotus 38 is part of the permanent exhibition at

The Henry Ford. "The Lotus and Ford connection has

"because of my interest in that particular area of racing, both Formula One and Indianapolis. It resonates with me very strongly, so I'm just happy to support that cause."

It's certainly one Locke knows intimately: From the slot cars and go-karts of his youth, he moved on to a variety of sports cars as a teenager and young adult, funded by summer jobs with a contractor who was also a racing enthusiast. "Those cars included a '62 T-Bird, a '61 Corvette and a '70 Lotus Europa," Locke says, "all of which were well used and often unreliable, generally requiring more of my time repairing than driving them, but that was part of the education and the fun."

As Locke pursued his passion for motor sports, his career began to take shape, initially with his role as a staff member for Connecticut Congressman Christopher Dodd, whose eventual appointment to the House Select Committee on Assassinations allowed Locke to take an active role in the inquiries into the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"The investigation was fascinating," Locke says, "and working with prosecutors and other attorneys confirmed my interest in law school and was the genesis of my quest to become a federal prosecutor." As the committee's work neared its conclusion, Locke was accepted by the University of California School of Law, Berkeley.

After law school, Locke was accepted by the Attorney General's Honor Law Graduate Program, spent two years as a federal prosecutor at the Justice Department and then returned to San Francisco as an assistant U.S. attorney. After several years prosecuting federal crimes, he had an opportunity to join a firm that specialized in environmental law.

"I always had a keen interest in environmental issues," Locke says, "and this was a unique opportunity to combine my trial experience with an important developing area of law."

It proved to be the right decision, as today Chris Locke is regarded as one of the top attorneys in his area of expertise and is a frequent lecturer and author on a variety of subjects, from developments in environmental law and litigation to trial strategy and evidence. And, of course, he's also continued to indulge his passion for motor sports.

"I've become the steward of several historic race cars," he says, "including a 1976 Lotus 77 Formula One car originally driven by Mario Andretti. I've also been entrusted to drive the Lotus 32B that Jim Clark drove to win the 1965 Tasman Championship. It is so gratifying to be able to display and demonstrate these cars for a new generation of enthusiasts and to have them come up, ask questions and tell their children and grandchildren, 'I remember seeing Mario drive this car when I was your age."

Ask Locke to single out his favorite car of all time, and the first one he mentions is his 1967 Lotus Elan, which he bought over 20 years ago and completely restored.

"The Elan is a 50-year-old design," Locke says, "and yet the handling and performance is up to today's standards in a lot of ways. A few years back I came to the very unfortunate conclusion I had too many cars, so I sold it to a friend of mine. But I made him promise to sell it back to me if he ever decided to part with it, and he did, and I now have it again. So I bought it twice."

But the Elan is not Locke's favorite car.

"That would be my 1963 Lotus 27 Formula Junior," he says. "You feel like Jim Clark when you're driving it. You're just constantly in an oversteer, understeer mode, when at the limit in turns, but the handling is so delicate and balanced. It's just a pleasure to drive."

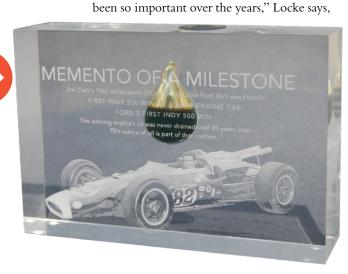
It's all come full circle for Chris Locke: a little boy's inspiration, a lifetime of admiration for an iconic driver and now this generous donation in Clark's honor.

"This gift is certainly a return to the roots of my passion," Locke says. "For me, the opportunity to help support the Racing in America exhibition at The Henry Ford and recognize the incredible achievements of Jim Clark, Ford and Lotus, embodied in the Indianapoliswinning Lotus 38, is a fitting tribute. I'm sure that enthusiasts who share this passion will enjoy the exhibition and that it will contribute to the enthusiasm of others for many generations to come." •

**Anyone interested in** honoring Jim Clark's historic victory at **Indianapolis in 1965 with** a donation of \$25,000 or greater will be recognized with one of 82 commemorative one-ounce vials of original motor oil from Clark's victorious

Lotus 38.

passion for racing.



# A Passion for Glass and The Henry Ford

Bruce Bachmann distinctly remembers when he and his wife, Ann, first fell in love — with a piece of glass.

"We have dear friends who are art collectors, and part of their collection was devoted to glass," he says. "And one day my friend said there's an international exhibition in Detroit. Tag along."

The couple, who live in Glencoe, Illinois, did just that and were immediately smitten by a work by the renowned artist Dale Chihuly, a red plate cut into a geometric pattern. But they didn't put a hold on it



# Our wish is this gift to The Henry Ford will promote everything about the glass world..."

**BRUCE BACHMANN** 

"A half hour later, we went back to buy the piece," Bachmann recalls with a rueful smile, "and there was a red dot already on it. It was our traveling companions, and they still have it in their house!"

That was 25 years ago. Since then, it's safe to say Bruce and Ann Bachmann haven't missed out on too many pieces for their collection of what is known as studio glass, the byproduct of a movement that was launched at the University of Wisconsin in 1962 and revolutionized art glass production in the United States.

"Most of the glass you see prior to 1962 was done in facilities with huge ovens, like Corning and Tiffany and others," Bachmann says, "but the studio glass movement meant that an individual artist could work by himself with his own small kiln and studio."

It wasn't long before the Bachmanns had one of the world's preeminent private collections.

"Our thought process was to buy one piece at a time," Bachmann says, "only one of each artist and only American artists."

The Bachmanns achieved that goal with their collection — and then some.

"It's staggering, frightening," Bachmann says with a hearty laugh. "There are 325 pieces. We have a small home in Florida, with about 50 pieces there, and the rest are in Glencoe."

But the entire collection will one day reside at The Henry Ford, which the Bachmanns chose over an array of competitors to be the recipient of the treasures they have lovingly amassed ever since that sparkling red Chihuly plate caught Bruce's eye.

Why The Henry Ford? Well, for starters, Bachmann and his family have had a love affair with the place since he and Ann began visiting years ago, when their four grown children were very young.

"It was a ritual," Bachmann recalls fondly.

"We'd drive in from Chicago and spend a few days at Greenfield Village. It wasn't just a visit for us, it was an education. And the people, the staff, everyone there, were just wonderful."

Fast-forward through decades to the process of considering the presentations from all the institutions who were vying for the Bachmann collection, and once again it was the people at The Henry Ford who won the day for Bruce and Ann.

"They were very understanding," Bachmann says, "and they didn't mind me taking longer than I should have, because it was a major decision."

And in the end, what made that decision a relatively simple one for the Bachmanns was not only the people they were dealing with but the plan proposed for their collection.

"There's no museum — and we talked to a half dozen of them," says Bachmann, "that offered everything that was here — first of all, the attendance and the amount of people coming through in a given year. And none of them were able to provide the space offered by The Henry Ford."

And there was one more incentive for the Bachmanns: Once the necessary funds are raised,



part of their collection will be on display in a special Glass Gallery in the McDonald's Sons Machine Shop, also known as the Guild Beer Hall, in the Liberty Craftworks area of Greenfield Village.

"Our dedication to this is interpreting the collection as art, design and innovation," says Christian Øverland, executive vice president for The Henry Ford. "The whole studio glass movement is innovation in the glass world, and that's a great story for us to tell."

A story that will be told in a way that's only possible at The Henry Ford.

"The hot glass shop is going to be right next door to the collection," says Øverland. "So when the Bruce and Ann Bachmann Glass Collection is installed, if someone was inspired from seeing the collection and wanted to try and make a glass flower or anything else, they can actually go right into the hot glass shop and work with our glassblowers on the spot."

"That's what really sold us," Bachmann says.
"Our wish is this gift to The Henry Ford will promote everything about the glass world — the collectors, galleries, museums and the artists — so they will appreciate it, visit here and see what can be done."

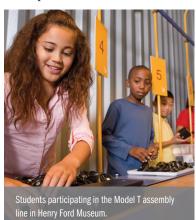
And in the rich tradition of The Henry Ford, perhaps inspire a young visitor to step into the hot glass shop and take that first critical and creative step toward becoming the world's next great studio glass artist.

**Note:** For additional information about how to support the future Glass Gallery, please contact Spence Medford at 313.982.6016 or via email: spencem@thehenryford.org.

### A Shared Commitment to Improving Minds and Lives

It truly appears to be a match made in heaven:

For over 75 years, the Ford Foundation has been one of the most influential organizations in the world, focusing on Third World development, education and the arts.



For over 80 years, The Henry Ford has been dedicated to education, the can-do spirit of generations of Americans, and open, hands-on access to virtually all its collections and exhibits.

The result is a \$500,000 grant to The Henry Ford by the Ford Foundation through its ArtsAccess Program.

"The foundation has long believed that art and culture have an enormous role to play in the health and well-being of communities," says Roberta Uno, senior program officer for freedom of expression, at the Ford Foundation. "Art and culture bring communities together, give voice and expression, encourage civic participation, and inspire innovation and creativity."

One of the long-standing pillars of the mission of the Ford Foundation is its ongoing effort to advance human knowledge, creativity and achievement — a goal that resonates in every way with the mission of The Henry Ford.

"The Henry Ford Museum is truly unique," says Uno, "a monument to innovation, inclusion and the ingenuity of America. It brings together, under one roof, iconic moments from the civil rights movement, from our political history, and showcases our achievements in industry and technology. It is a monument to visionaries of all kinds, of science, of technology and of innovation. Fundamentally, it's about real people and real places."

And thanks to this generous gift, The Henry Ford will now be even more accessible than it already is for all who want to visit and take advantage of all that it offers. In fact, in recognition of this generous grant from the Ford Foundation, on November 3 admission to any of The Henry Ford's venues will be \$5 for the entire day.

"The Henry Ford is one of Detroit's stellar institutions," Uno says, "and the foundation's ArtsAccess Program is designed to give everyone in the community, particularly low-income families who may not yet be familiar with the worldclass collections assembled nearby, the chance to share the richness of Detroit's, indeed America's, artistic and cultural life. Giving families from underserved neighborhoods the chance to experience this unparalleled collection can open up opportunities, expand potential and inspire change. It is an important step in reinforcing a commitment to our common goals

and aspirations in building a common understanding of our heritage and future."

It's a noble and stirring objective, one that echoes the spirit of the man behind both the foundation and the institution.

"The museum is all about innovation and resourcefulness," says Uno, "inspired by one of the true visionaries of the 20th century, Henry Ford. We are committed to driving change, to addressing some of the world's most intractable problems and to improving lives. And to do that we need vision, we need innovation, we need the kind of pioneering and undaunted spirit that is reflected in the museum, and we want everyone in the community to have the opportunity to see, experience and be inspired by all that this wonderful museum has to offer." •

In recognition of this generous grant from the Ford Foundation, on November 3 admission to any of The Henry Ford's venues will be \$5 for the entire day."

### The Henry Ford & Severstal: **Both a Piece of Dearborn History**

In 1915, Henry Ford stood on the banks of the Rouge River in Dearborn and declared he had found the perfect spot to build an iron-making facility that would be an integral part of his moving assembly line.

Five years later, in May of 1920, the first blast furnace at the Rouge came to life when Ford's toddler grandson struck a match to ignite its first coke charge. In the more than 90 years since young Henry Ford II performed that task, the Ford Rouge River complex, automobiles and steel have been inextricably linked.

And the furnaces and towers of the Severstal plant have been an integral part of the Dearborn landscape for generations.

Now Severstal is joining forces with another Dearborn institution, The Henry Ford, by initially offering its sponsorship support to the 2012 Salute to America event this past Fourth of July.

"We are really pleased to be able to offer our sponsorship support to The Henry Ford," says

Bruce L. Black, the vice president and general manager of Severstal Dearborn. "Severstal's rich history, values and innovative spirit go hand in hand with the philosophy of the museum, and having our company name promoted and recognized in the community is an added bonus.

"And we're talking about other things we can do with The Henry Ford," Black continues. "We definitely want to be a part of the community. This is where we work and live, and we value our connection with The Henry Ford, where we can remember where we came from, how we got here and how everything is linked. I think it's a fabulous facility and a great place to learn."

As The Henry Ford preserves the history of manufacturing, it also celebrates Severstal's history with the Ford vehicles that were made of the company's steel.

"It's really incredible when you think about it," Black says, "because this was one of the steel companies that Henry Ford used for cars and also for the time during World War II when they made ships and planes. So our two companies really were vertically integrated, all the way from the raw materials to the finished product."

And the fact that Dearborn is a link both companies shared since the dawn of modern manufacturing in America made the relationship even more special — and unusual.

"If you went around the country and looked for steel-making operations that have been in the same location since the first blast furnace started, you wouldn't find a lot," Black says. "So I think the fact that first match was lit here in a blast furnace and there's still iron-making and steelmaking by blast furnaces on the same site more than 90-plus years later is incredible.

"I have employees who are working here whose grandfathers used to work on this site," Black continues, "and I also have employees who talk about wanting their grandchildren to work here as well, so I think there's a lot of folks here who feel that linkage between manufacturing in its early days, Ford, steel-making and the fact that it's helping to revive an area. And I think they are really excited about that.

"For all of them, Severstal isn't just a place to work, and it isn't just another steel company. It's truly a piece of history. So we look forward to continuing our relationship with The Henry Ford and the Dearborn community for many years to come."



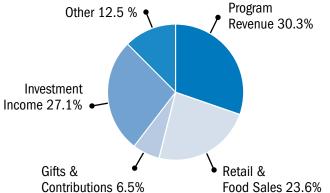
In front seat: Sergei Kuznetsov, chief executive officer of Severstal North America. On the left in backseat: Alexey Mordashov, chief executive officer of Severstal

# **Financial Report and Donor Roll**

<b>Operating Revenue (in thousands)</b>	2011	2010	2011 Operating Support & Revenue
Admissions	\$10,969	\$11,164	Davidson and 0
Membership	4,484	4,481	Development &  • Membership 5.4%
Restaurants & Catering	10,802	9,819	Administrative
Retail	1,248	1,129	11.3%
Other Earned Income	4,920	4,961	
Gifts & Contributions	3,335	3,663	
Investment Income	13,821	14,142	
Other	1,447	1,444	
	<b>\$51,026</b>	\$50,803	Program 83.3%
Operating Expenses			110gram 65.5%
Program	\$41,694	\$42,053	2011 Operating Expenditures
Administrative	5,644	5,578	
Development & Membership	2,690	2,627	Other 12.5 % • Program
·	\$50,028	\$50,258	Revenue 3
Capital Investments	\$697	\$478	
Surplus (Deficit) **	\$301	\$67	Investment
,			Income 27.1% •

Fund-raising expenses as a percentage of total revenue: 5.15% Fund-raising & administration expenses as a percentage of total revenue: 16.10%

\*\*Note: Excludes depreciation.



In 2011 the economic challenges that have been a global trend continued to impact all of us in southeast Michigan, particularly in the arts and culture sector.

But through it all, The Henry Ford has attained a level of interest and participation that is nothing short of remarkable: Attendance increased nearly 50,000 from 2010 and remained above 1.5 million for all of the organization's venues. Part of the reason for this may well be our aggressive promotion of tourism in Michigan and participation in the Pure Michigan television ads, which allowed us to deliver our message to a much wider audience.

But we also believe, in challenging times like ours, cultural institutions like The Henry Ford are vital in providing families the opportunity to immerse themselves in our many inspirational stories of American innovation, ingenuity and resourcefulness. Behind every one of those stories is a celebration of belief, determination and, ultimately, survival. All are characteristics that are singularly American and which assure us we have all we need to weather the current storm and emerge from it as we always have — better, stronger and wiser.

On the pages that follow, we are delighted and privileged to thank and acknowledge those whose generous contributions in 2011 supported our programs, activities and everyday operations, and allowed us to continue to honor the mission we hold so dear — to inspire every visitor who walks through our doors and help make a better and brighter future for

> Thank you so much for your patronage and your partnership.



PHOTO CREDIT: ROY RITCHIE \\ HOLIDAY NIGHTS, GREENFIELD VILLAGE

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We sincerely thank all of our members and donors whose contributions enable The Henry Ford to continue to grow and build on its heritage of celebrating innovation, resourcefulness and ingenuity. Your continued support and dedication in these challenging economic times is especially noted and appreciated.

The following pages recognize gifts from individuals, companies and foundations received between January 1, 2011, and December 31, 2011. If we have omitted a name or otherwise erred, please accept our apology and contact Institutional Advancement at 313.982.6180.

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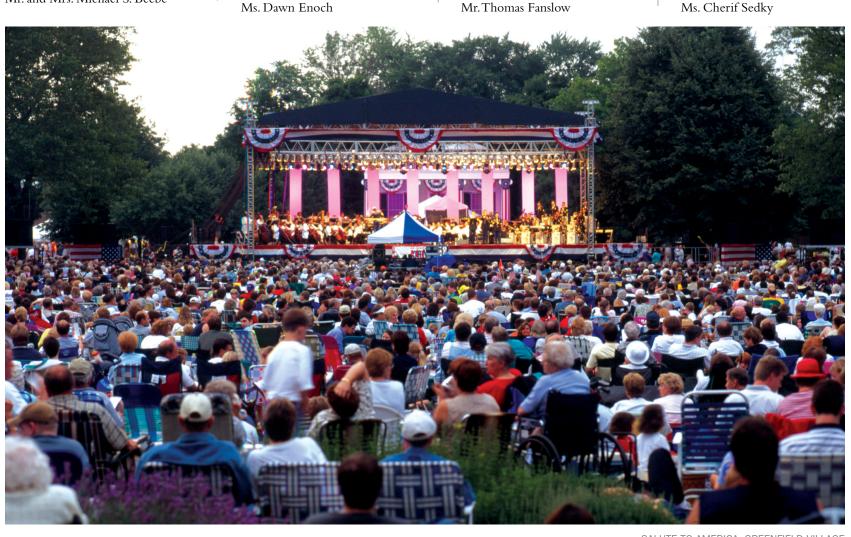
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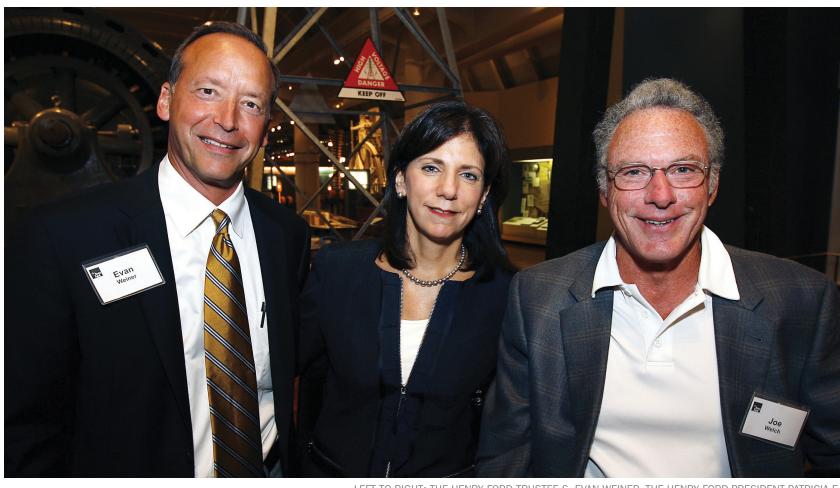
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The following organizations matched their employees' gifts to The Henry Ford. Please check with your own organization to see if it has a program that can match your gift in 2012.

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#### **▶Gifts in Honor**

The following were honored by others who made a gift to The Henry Ford.

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The following were honored by others who made a gift to The Henry Ford in their memory.

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#### Part I - Donated objects to the collections in 2011.

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Part II - Oral history interviews have been accessioned into the collections in 2010 from the following individuals.

#### Will Allen

#### **▶** Volunteers

Our indispensable volunteer corps gave 88,062.90 hours of service in 2011, the equivalent of 42 full-time employees. Of the year's 647 volunteers, the individuals listed below contributed 100 or more hours in 2011.

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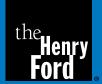
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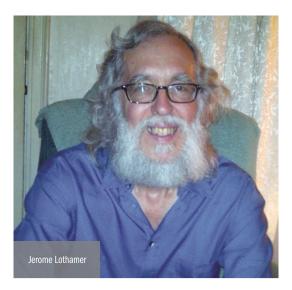
Kathy Youngheim



# WHAT IS THE HENRY FORD EFFECT?

It's the impact and inspiration you create through your philanthropic investments. Your generosity helps us nurture a vibrant cultural scene, preserve and increase accessibility of national treasures, and develop innovative learning tools.

# Family Ties Lead to a Lasting Legacy



Ask Jerome Lothamer why he decided to designate The Henry Ford for a gift annuity in his name, and his eyes light up as a wide smile peeks through his bearded face.

"I like history," says Jerome, who works as a clerk at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, "and I just think it's a very worthy and important thing to do. History is preserved for us at both The Henry Ford and Greenfield Village, and I just think it's a very good thing which needs to be supported."

"And as far as myself," he continues, "the gift annuity guarantees me a regular income for as long as I live. So with this gift, I was able to achieve two goals that are very important to me."

Jerome's family has quite a backstory: It is not only an integral part of the history of one of the most significant buildings in Greenfield Village but also has ties to Henry Ford himself.

"My maternal grandfather, Florian Taubitz, was born in 1862," Jerome says, "one year before

Henry Ford. Both of them were students at the Scotch Settlement School, and they became friends."

Lessons at the school were taught in one room by John Chapman, a large man who utilized his size to great advantage when it came to intimidating disobedient students. Henry Ford clearly didn't fall into that category; not only did he thrive in Chapman's classroom, but he often referred to him as his favorite schoolteacher.

In 1932, decades after Ford and Taubitz left the Scotch Settlement School and that building had been moved to Greenfield Village, Henry Ford paid Taubitz a visit at his farm on Ford Road, where he lived with his wife, Mary, and their three daughters, the youngest of whom, Alma, was Jerome Lothamer's mother.

Jerome says visits from Ford to his grandfather's farm weren't at all unusual.

"My mother told me Mr. Ford would come over from time to time and visit my grandfather," he says. "They remained friends from their days together in school."

But the purpose of this particular visit was different, because Ford's old friend and his family were now living in what used to be the house that belonged to John Chapman during the 1870s.

"When my mother was a little girl," Jerome says, "Ford Road was just a narrow gravel road. But in 1932, it was widened to its present size. The spot where my grandfather's house stood was in the way of where the expanded road was going to go. When Henry Ford heard about it, he came to my grandfather and asked if he could have the house for Greenfield Village."

Florian Taubitz was only too happy to accommodate his old classmate, particularly when he was told what he'd be getting in return.

"My grandfather agreed to give Mr. Ford the house," Jerome says with a grin, "and in exchange Mr. Ford offered my grandfather a new car."

The two old friends quickly came to an agreement, sealed with a handshake.

And it turns out Chapman House isn't the only relic from the Taubitz family that thrives to this very day on the grounds of Greenfield Village.

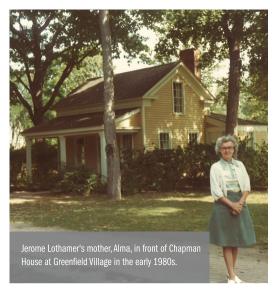
"There was a line from a poem Mr. Ford really liked, 'The Village Blacksmith,' by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow," Jerome says, "and it begins with the line, 'Under the spreading chestnut tree, the village smithie stands.'

"Mr. Ford wanted to have a chestnut tree next to the blacksmith shop in Greenfield Village," he continues, "and he knew there was a chestnut tree on my grandfather's farm, so he asked him if he could have it."

Once again, Florian Taubitz readily agreed, and today the chestnut tree still stands right where Henry Ford transplanted it, behind the blacksmith shop. It's a sweet and personal touchstone for Jerome, who reveals there's yet another significant tree that connects him with his family's legacy.

"I can find the exact spot where the Chapman House stood when it was on Ford Road," he explains, as he leafs through an album of old family photographs, "because my mother told me when she was a child, if she looked out her back window, there was a pear tree standing there.

"Well, that tree is still there after all these years. The house was on Ford Road, halfway between Southfield and Evergreen. And if you're driving west on Ford Road, right after you pass Artesian, you can spot a pear tree standing back a few feet from the road.



And there's another powerful family connection in Jerome's own downtown neighborhood: the Ford Memorial United Methodist Church is right down the street, and it stands on the same spot where Jerome's grandfather and Henry Ford learned their lessons from John Chapman at the Scotch Settlement School. And Chapman is buried in the cemetery next door.

So for Jerome Lothamer, a drive along Ford Road, or even a simple stroll down the street, are quite literally sentimental journeys, as is any visit to The Henry Ford and Greenfield Village.

"What I feel about that place," he says, "it's hard to put into words."

But easy for anyone to understand.



For more information on making a legacy gift to The Henry Ford, see our planned giving website at thehenryfordlegacy.org.

Left: In a photograph taken in April 1922, Jerome Lothamer's mother, Alma, stands with her father, mother and sister in front of Chapman House at its original location on Ford Road.

From right to left: Florian, Alma, Mary and Clara



Henry Ford MISSION STATEMEN

The Henry Ford provides unique educational experiences based on authentic objects, stories and lives from America's traditions of ingenuity, resourcefulness and innovation. Our purpose is to inspire people to learn from these traditions to help shape a better future.

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