

Quarterly Newsletter



April 2023



From ECF President Jeff Williams

The ECF rolls along, but occasionally, we need to stop and reevaluate our road map to make sure we're going in the right direction to meet our mission. The 2020 ECF Strategic Plan had been completed and with new leadership on the Board of Directors, it was time to look to the future.

I extend my thanks to the Board members and staff who took time out of their busy schedules to examine the ECF structure, programs, and the Community needs. And a huge thank you to former Board member and advocate Bill Barnes. Bill understands the ECF, our mission, and our community, unlike anyone we could have brought in from the outside. Bill put hours into preparing materials, conducting the planning sessions, and compiling the plan based on comments and opinions expressed by the participants. The result is a roadmap for the next five years (or less if completed before then). We have updated goals, objectives, and assignments with those responsible named. The running joke was that Bill would only charge the ECF \$1 less than a very high quote received from a professional firm. Because of Bill's work and dedication to the new Strategic Plan, the ECF Board donated to the ECF Fund for the Future in Bill's name. We appreciate our friends and the guidance as we move forward.

Investing in the Community

A message from ECF Treasurer Janis Meyer:

The ECF finance committee met with UMB Bank on April 20th for their quarterly meeting. The committee meets with UMB every quarter to go over the performance of the portfolio and to ask questions about their plans and predictions.



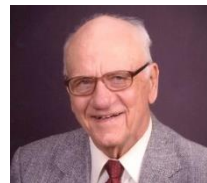
After a rocky year in 2022, the first quarter of 2023 showed some improvement in the return on investment (ROI). The ROI came in at 3.67% for our total portfolio. Interestingly, equities and fixed income both showed nice ROI. Typically, one is good while the other goes in the opposite direction. But, Doyt Ladd, their senior portfolio manager, pointed out how that is a sign of just how crazy the market has been. The International sector of our portfolio showed a ROI of 7.83% over the last three months, and he plans to take some of the excess growth we should get from equities and invest a little more in the international sector. He expects the rest of 2023 to have moderate to flat growth and for the Fed to raise the rates one more time this year from 5% to 5.25%. UMB also predicts that inflation will start to trend downward some in the coming months.

Remembering ECF Legacies



Barbara Walker (1937 - 2023)

Barbara was born in England and the story of her childhood when she came to the USA was made into a movie. Growing up on the east coast, she eventually came back to her roots in Emporia to be the Editor of the family paper, The Gazette. Barbara was known for being kind and caring for others, which led to her being one of the founders of ECF. She and her husband David (who survives) started one of the first ECF funds.



Chuck Hanna (1928 - 2023)

Chuck and his wife Doris raised their family in Emporia. At his Celebration of Life, it was told how one of his sons accidentally burned most of the family's back yard when he was 9. Expecting tough punishment, his grandma told him about his father burning almost a 5-block area at a similar age! Chuck was active in many groups and while on the ECF Board of Directors, he served on the Finance Committee. He was instrumental in reorganizing the ECF investments at UMB. Loni Heinen remembers that he wasn't afraid to voice his opinion in board and committee meetings.

We are grateful for these Legacies.



Patterson Legal Group Gift

The Emporia Community Foundation was surprised to be one of six area non-profits selected by the Patterson Legal Group's Giving Back program. ECF Executive Director, Becky Nurnberg, accepted the gift of \$500 from Tyler Patterson in February of this year. The money will be used for a Growing Up Giving award in the 2023 Match Day event. A promo was shot to run on KSNT-TV and then an interview will be filmed in May about the ECF. The ECF is truly grateful for the recognition!



Flint Hills Legacies

Catch the monthly Legacy story at 6:50 AM on Monday mornings on KVOE-AM 1400 & 96.9 FM. ECF Executive Director Becky Nurnberg shares a different story each month highlighting an ECF Legacy Fund.

To learn more about the Flint Hills Legacy program, contact Becky at the ECF office. *What is your legacy?*



Second Quarter Calendar

May

3 – ECF Office Closed for KACF Regional Meeting
9 – Match Day Announcement
15 – **79 Fund** Application Deadline
19 – **ECF Board of Directors** Meeting
29 – ECF Office Closed for Memorial Day



June

1 – **Sadie Jones Fund** Application Deadline
15 – **Morgan Wilkie Fund** Application Deadline
16 – **ECF Board of Directors** Meeting

July

3 & 4 – ECF Office Closed for Fourth of July
18 – ECF visits UMB in Kansas City
21 – **ECF Board Meeting/Quarterly Trustee** Meeting

You're Invited!

