

OHIOANA'S LEGACY CIRCLE

By Cynthia Puckett, Ohioana President

The Ohioana collection contains the literary legacy of thousands of Ohio authors. It is also the legacy of hundreds of publishers and donors who have contributed books to the collection. They are a treasure trove for readers and researchers.

As we celebrate our eightieth anniversary, one of the words that comes to mind for many Ohioana supporters is continuity. Without the thoughtful support of those who came before us, we could not have known and enjoyed the wonderful works of our state's talented writers and other artists. Since 1929, beginning with Ohio's First Lady Martha Kinney Cooper, there has been an unbroken chain of individuals who, like many of you, have generously supported the Ohioana mission to promote and preserve our treasures. Many of these contributors have not only provided ongoing annual donations, but assured the continuity of fulfilling our mission by creating a personal legacy giving plan to benefit Ohioana in the years to come.

Members of our Legacy Circle are members and friends who have provided for future gifts for Ohioana. Below are the comments of two Legacy Circle members.

Ann Bowers – Bowling Green

Ohioana has been part of my life for almost thirty years. As a member of its board of trustees, I have been privileged to watch Ohioana develop into a vibrant advocate of and activist for the arts in Ohio, especially the literary arts. I plan to be part of Ohioana in some manner the rest of my life. I can think of no other way to honor my commitment to this wonderful organization than to leave a bequest in hopes that, joining with many other such bequests, it will become a legacy supporting the fulfillment of Ohioana's mission for future generations.

E. Jane Porter – Columbus

Today, more than ever I am proud to be a member of Ohioana's Legacy Circle. At a time when all libraries are in need of support,

I am happy that I have planned ahead with a charitable gift annuity. My quarterly returns are now used for my annual gift to Ohioana's Martha Kinney Cooper Society. It is very rewarding to know that these funds are helping to keep Ohio's great literary heritage intact and available for generations to come.

Creating a Legacy Giving Plan

There is nothing complicated about the concept of creating a legacy giving plan. Simply put, you can develop a financial plan for your estate that will support what is important to you now and in the future. There are a several ways this can be achieved. Some of our supporters have provided for Ohioana in a will or trust, or as the beneficiary of an insurance policy. This traditional type of legacy giving is still one of the most popular options, and Ohioana has been very grateful for the generosity of many individuals through the years.

Another option of legacy planning that is gaining popularity allows you to receive retirement income from investments that you choose while dedicating the principal of all or part of your estate to Ohioana at your death. This type of plan guarantees that all of the principal will go to Ohioana as you direct.

In addition to these possibilities for legacy giving, you may also want to consider other types of retirement plan or life insurance donations.

While there is a tendency among some of us to delay decisions about estate planning, there is no better time than now to decide to make a gift to Ohioana as we celebrate our truly golden 80th anniversary. Give a gift that truly keeps on giving—and you also will have the added benefit of receiving invitations to special events with writers and other artists that will be held exclusively to honor our generous contributors.

If you and/or your advisor would like more information about the legacy giving options available to you, please contact Linda Hengst or David Weaver at Ohioana.