



**CINCINNATI
FIRE MUSEUM**

CINCINNATI FIRE MUSEUM

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



STAFF & BOARD MEMBERS

THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE CINCINNATI FIRE MUSEUM



"Cincinnati's leadership in firefighting through the 1800's, and the foresight to save and protect important artifacts for the last 200 years, results in one of the very best fire museums in the country. We are proud to be the only museum in the city that SAVES LIVES through fire safety education."

- TOM HARDY, PRESIDENT

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Sarah Strickland
Executive Director

Alice Wize
Gift Shop and Admissions Manager

William "Gumby" Donovan
Events Coordinator



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I began my tenure as Executive Director of the Cincinnati Fire Museum in late August and am proud of what we accomplished in the months that followed. From creating new events, to revamping our membership program, to strengthening our partnership with the Cincinnati Fire Department – all while increasing our fundraising efforts – we have been busy and fruitful!

The Cincinnati Fire Museum has a rich history to showcase as the Queen City boasts a lot of the Nation's exciting firsts: first to organize a professionally paid fire department, first to use steam engines, and first to have a fully

motorized fleet. With this in mind, it remains a top priority to interpret the history of firefighting in new, exciting ways that engage our community members and schools. Our dual mission of preserving firefighting history and teaching fire safety education, with an emphasis on children, is being realized daily, and will only continue to evolve to increase our impact. It is with great pleasure and optimism for the future of the Cincinnati Fire Museum that I present this annual report to our stakeholders.

Sarah Strickland

SARAH STRICKLAND

Cincinnati Fire Museum, Executive Director



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Since inception in 1980, the Board of Trustees have resolved to develop the Cincinnati Fire Museum into the finest in the nation. For almost four decades, the City's unique and valuable collection of fire equipment and memorabilia has been cared for and used to create quality educational exhibits in the restored quarters of Engine Co. 45, now home to the Cincinnati Fire Museum.

As we approach the 40th year anniversary of the Fire Museum, we take great pride in what we have accomplished as a Cincinnati cultural institution that continues to present a comprehensive educational program based on a historical as well as modern approach to fire prevention.

2019 was a successful year for the Fire Museum as you'll see throughout the following pages.

The Cincinnati Fire Museum highlights the significant contributions that Cincinnati has made to the firefighting profession.

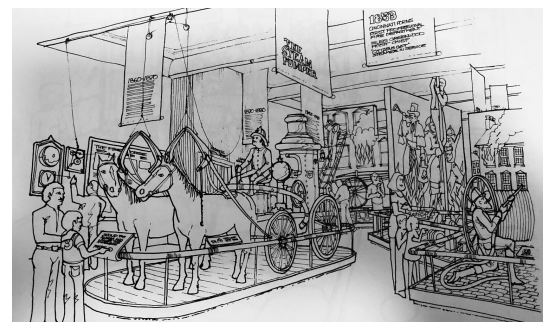
MISSION STATEMENT

To share and celebrate the history of firefighting in Cincinnati, while providing a unique fire-safety experience.

OUR VISION

To bring the traditions of firefighting to life in a museum that helps save lives.

MISSION AND VISION



THE MUSEUM'S COLLECTION



The Cincinnati Fire Museum's Collection numbers over 700 items plus a sizeable archive of photos, documents, and records. It represents the firefighting history of Cincinnati from the very first volunteer fire company formed in 1808. The fire alarm drum and brass key to the first fire house in 1808, along with parade hats, impressive hand-pumped engines, and wooden water pipes have been displayed to illustrate the exciting bucket

brigade years of Cincinnati Fire Volunteers.

In 1852, Shawk and Latta of Cincinnati built the nation's first steam fire pumper. This invention paved the way for Cincinnati to establish the first professional fire department in the United States in 1853. The exhibits highlighting this important period feature an impressive horse-drawn steam pumper, ladder wagons, helmets, badges, and many more fascinating items.

In 1917, Cincinnati became one of the nation's first fully-motorized fire companies, and the Ahrens-Fox Company of Cincinnati emerged as a leading builder of fire equipment. Two full-size Ahrens-Fox Engines in all their glory, are featured along with many other items of equipment. The outstanding collection of artifacts and graphics are the nucleus of the Cincinnati Fire Museum, making it a unique and prominent national attraction.

IN 2019 the Fire Museum accepted several important artifacts into our collection. These artifacts include four firemarks with origins from the Greater Cincinnati area and a ceremonial fire-axe originally presented to Vickie Goodson, one of Cincinnati Fire Department's first female firefighters, at her retirement. Additionally, the Museum accepted a donation of thousands of toy trucks, the majority of which are fire department related.

VISITORSHIP

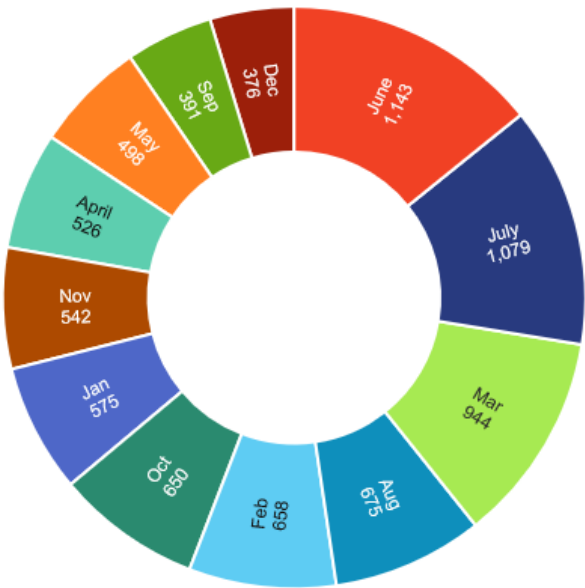
The Cincinnati Fire Museum has something to offer for the whole family. Kids can:

- Visit our Safe House and practice life saving fire safety skills.
- Slide down our real firehouse pole!
- See what real firefighters look like wearing their protective gear.
- Run the lights and sirens in our E-One Pumper Cab!
- Witness some of the oldest examples of firefighting equipment in existence.

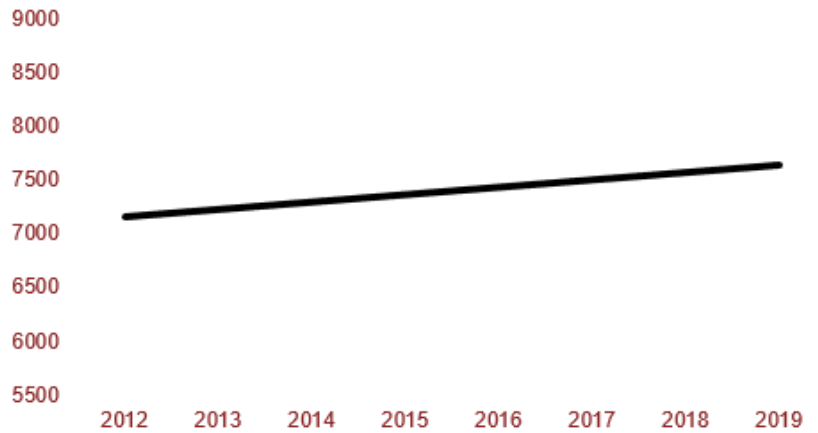
SCHOOL TOURS

over
50
guided tours provided by
the Museum in 2019

2019 Visitorship by Month



Admissions Growth



over
15%
visitor increase in the
past seven years



FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION

The Cincinnati Fire Museum, in conjunction with the Cincinnati Fire Department, operates a world-class fire safety education program designed to teach participants how to prevent fires within the home and how to protect themselves and escape should a fire occur. The Museum presents a simulated fire event in a mock home environment. Educators lead a tour and discussion through several rooms in a mock home. In each room, various fire

and burn hazards are demonstrated and explanations are offered as to how each can cause a fire and what can be done to prevent it.

IN 2019 our Fire Safety Education Program served 8,057 visitors. In order to ensure schools and families can participate in our program, we keep the group rate at a minimum cost - only \$3 per student. We depend on gifts from donors and foundations to keep this cost affordable to the community. The Cincinnati Fire Museum is currently the only institution in Cincinnati that saves lives through fire prevention. This is a vital role that the Museum plays and a significant part of our mission. Our program endeavors to make fire prevention everyone's responsibility and to reduce the number of fires and fire related deaths to help our city have a healthier and safer future.

The Cincinnati Fire Museum Safe House is in need of an update to better serve our visitors and and make a stronger impact in our community. Our goal is to renovate the existing Safe House and incorporate audio/visual components for a dynamic, modern exhibit that will resonate strongly with visitors, especially children.

We have begun the initial process, and through careful research, selected a design firm that has provided a cost proposal and project implementation plan. We anticipate a complete structural renovation, with the addition of technology, will cost \$500,000. As the Museum approaches our 40th year anniversary, there is no better time to focus our fundraising initiatives toward this renovation. In 2020, we will implement a fundraising campaign to update the Safe House so we can put this proposal into action.

MOVING FORWARD



SPECIAL EVENTS

FIRE SAFETY OPEN HOUSE

On Saturday, October 12, the Cincinnati Fire Museum hosted a Fire Safety Open House in partnership with the Cincinnati Fire Department. The event coincided with BLINK 2019 and drew a nice audience to the Museum in the name of fire safety. On top of fire safety and history tours, we offered visitors fire truck rides, drink and snacks, face painting, and half-off admission. The Fire Department provided fire safety literature and fire helmets to children who attended.



SANTA RESCUE

Our first annual Santa Rescue was held on Saturday, November 30th at noon sharp! The event took place at the Fire Museum, where the brave Cincinnati firefighters of Ladder 3 rescued Santa from his perilous perch on the Museum's rooftop. Members of the press were invited and encouraged to attend the event and we received a couple of spots on the morning and evening news. Additionally, photographer Glenn Hartong created a 30 second clip of the event that received over 7k social media views. Afterwards, guests were invited in

to learn firsthand about the important history and fire safety education the Fire Museum presents and line up to sit on Santa's lap and enjoy hot chocolate and treats.

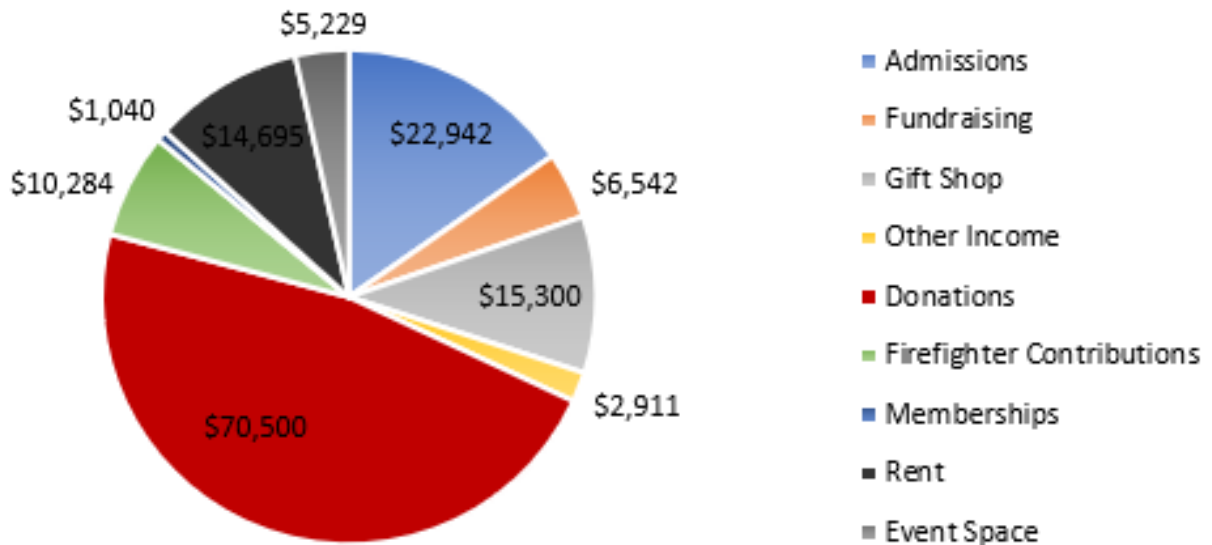
9/11 MEMORIAL RIDE

The Cincinnati Fire Museum hosted the Fire and Iron Motorcycle Club as a stop on their annual ride to commemorate those service members who perished on 9/11. The organization made a generous contribution to the Museum after the event.



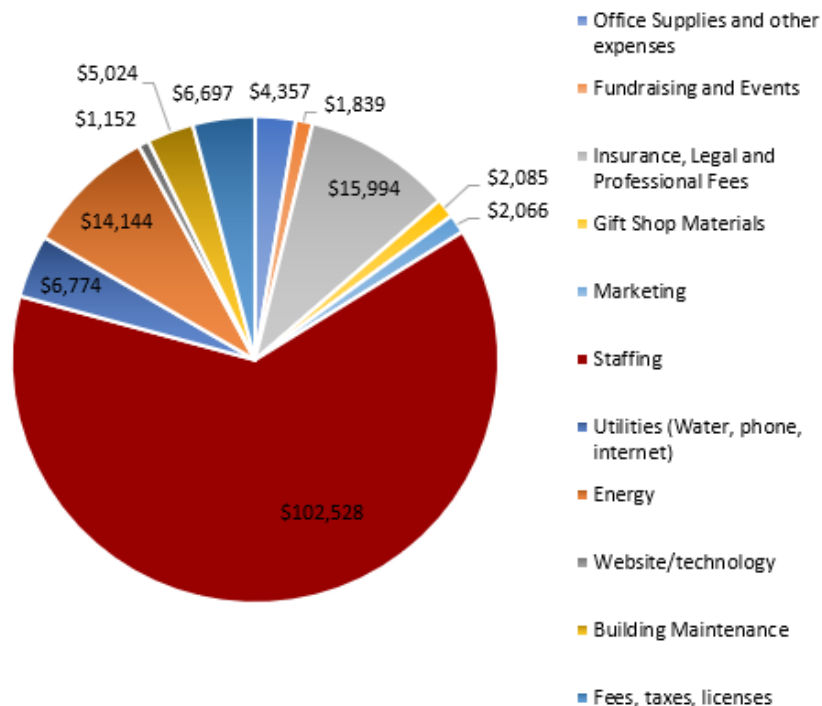
Year in Review

INCOME



The Cincinnati Fire Museum relies heavily on donations for operating support. These donations come in the form of gifts from individual donors, foundations and grant awards, memorial gifts, and corporate support. We also receive support from Cincinnati firefighters who opt into the payroll deduction plan and have automatic contributions deducted from their check at an amount that is comfortable to each member.

EXPENSES

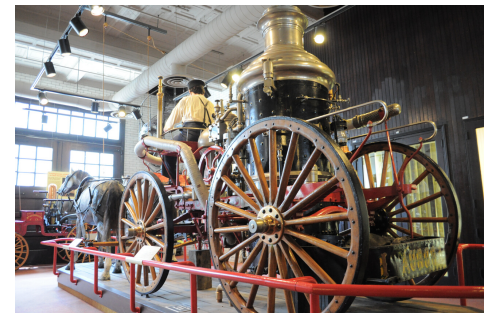


As demonstrated above, the largest expense the Museum incurred is staffing and administration, followed by insurance and professional fees.

WHAT MAKES OUR MUSEUM UNIQUE



The Cincinnati Fire Museum is truly a unique gem in our city. We have a dedicated group of volunteers, most of whom are retired firefighters, who spend their time tending to the needs of our firehouse and providing hands-on support at events. We have a loyal group of active duty firefighters who serve as docents to lead school and other group tours around our galleries. Keeping in line with the best traditions of firefighting culture, we maintain a family oriented, fun learning space for community members. We are dedicated to engaging local families through holiday themed programs and fire safety related events.



THE ONLY MUSEUM IN CINCINNATI THAT SAVES LIVES.

LOOKING AHEAD — A PREVIEW OF 2020

CELEBRATING FOUR DECADES

The Cincinnati Fire Museum will proudly celebrate 40 years of serving the Cincinnati community in 2020. We endeavor to carry out a fundraising campaign that will fund the renovation of our current galleries, including the Safe House, and breathe new life into our 1907 firehouse. The Museum has undergone significant changes since inception, but we have yet to reach our full potential. We are adding several new events to our calendar in the upcoming year, including the introduction of a new annual fundraiser that will celebrate firehouse cuisine.

**SUPER BOWL
PARTY/FUNDRAISER —
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2**



**REDS OPENING DAY
CELEBRATION—
MARCH 26**



**EASTER EGG HUNT—
SATURDAY, APRIL 11 10-
11AM**



**KEENELAND
FUNDRAISER —
SATURDAY, APRIL 18TH**



**SEPTEMBER 11TH
MEMORIAL —
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**



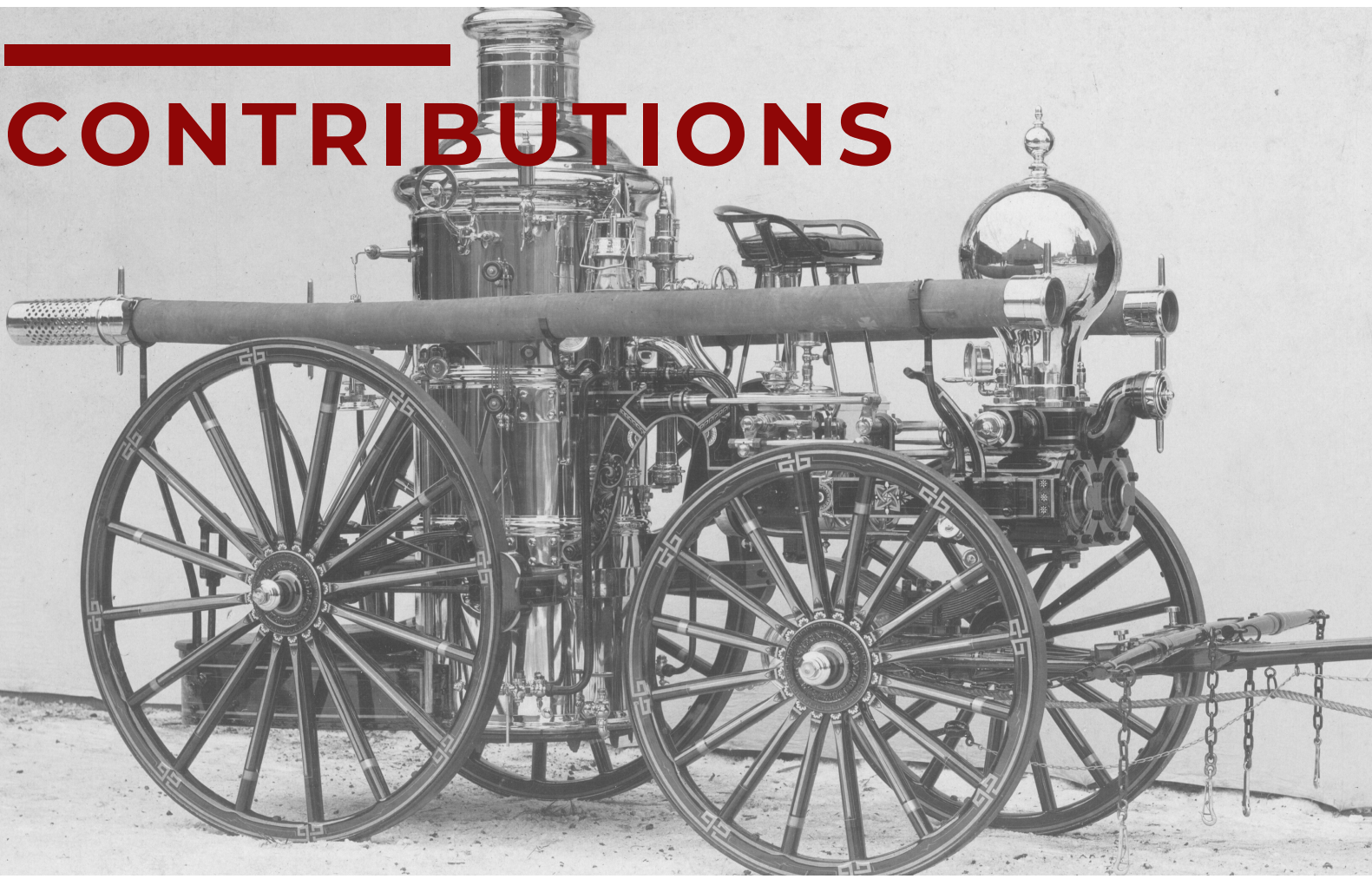
**KIDS' HALLOWEEN PARTY —
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24,
12-2PM**



 A dark red promotional poster for a "Cincinnati Fire Museum Cook-off" fundraiser. It features a white chef's hat icon and kitchen utensils (spatula, knife, whisk). The text reads: "Cincinnati Fire Museum Cook-off FUNDRAISER Firefighters will battle it out to earn the title of Best Chef SAVE THE DATE November 14 | 6-9 PM". At the bottom is the Cincinnati Fire Museum logo.


**SANTA
RESCUE —
11/28 | NOON -2 PM**

CONTRIBUTIONS



The Cincinnati Fire Museum could not fulfill its mission without the generosity of the support it receives from foundations and donors. It is with great gratitude that we present the following list of 2019 supporters.

\$10,000 and Above



Greater Cincinnati Foundation
Tom Hardy
The Robert & Adele Schiff Family Foundation

\$5,000 – \$9,999

The H.C.S. Foundation
Carolyn and Gary Miller

\$1,000 – \$4,999

TriHealth
The Ahrens Family Foundation
Fire and Iron Motorcycle Club
Vickie Goodson
Chris and Judy Dalambakis
Steelcase Foundation
Charles Scott Riley III Foundation
Ethan and Mrs. Susan Pagliaro

\$500 – \$999

Fireside Pizza
Hans Zimmer
Tim Burke, Manley Burke LPA
James Bunner*
Lee and Allison Bushman
The Jones Family
Gary Gruber
Gregory Jeranek Family*
Fredrick Prather
Alvin Roehr



CONTRIBUTIONS CONT.

\$200 – \$499

William Brown
Kenneth Christo*
Alan Eccard*
Jennifer Gries
Michael Kirby*
Mario Jackson*
Derek Riley Johnson*
Adam Lacefield*
Ray Panko
Steve Hagy
Andrew Todd Jones*
Rebecca Richardson
Charles Riefle*
Janos Roper*
John Sibert/CFD Eng 29
Bryan Stockelman*
Traditions Development Group LLC
James Wheeldon
Joshua Williamson*
Matthew Wright*

\$100 – \$199

Harvey's Hackers
Robert Kuhn
Jerry Baumgartner
Robert Blasing
Kenneth Boorum
Terry Childs
Robert Coletti
Fredrick Funeral Home Inc.
Harry Goetz
Wendell Herm
David Herth
Marty & Tom Humes
Tari Kennamer
Daniel Kuhn, Jr.
Toni Lab

*Indicates member of Club 1853

Tomas Lane
Dan Lehr
Gregg Leeser
Carmine DiLorenzo
Thomas Marzheuser
Jan Methlie
Bobby & Amanda McGrew
David & Nancy Moore
Marriott Pupillo
Dustin Schermbeck
Robert Studt
Charles Theile

Club 1853

This club recognizes firefighters that are signed up as sustaining members in the payroll deduction continuous plan.

Joshua Abner
Drew Ahern
John Aisenbrey
Michael Anderson
Antonio Axle
Ashley Ba (Booker)
John Baer
Nykeba Banks
Jeffrey Bauman
Jarred Beckenhaupt
Joseph Becker
Jason Becker
Abigail Beluska (Nienaber)
Scott Bepler
William Bland
John Bloomfield
Dustin Bobo
Daniel Boller Jr
Shawn Bonner
Patrick Borgemenke
Casey Boyd



CONTRIBUTIONS CONT.

Joel Brown
Jerrell Brown
Damonte Brown
Rebecca Bryant
Brian Bucher
Darrell Bullock
Eric Burns
Ryan Burns
Markis Carey
Lasha Cauthen
Matthew Clark
Seth Clement
Jordan Cochrane
Zachary Cranfill
Ryan Curtis
Breana Dale
Ronald Dangerfield-Bracey
John Deal
Jordan Dirr
Eric Driver
Kimberly Drummonds
Chad Duccilli
Clevon Dukes II
Mitchell Duncan
Mark Edsall
Michael Engelkamp
Dominic Faillace
Louis Faillace
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Matthew Johnson
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Robert Johnson
Harold Jones
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Michael Kappa
Robert Kastner
Joshua Kim
Jeffrey Klug
Nathaniel Kroeger
Thomas Lakamp
Joseph Lang
Daniel Lang
Emma Leidenbor (Harper)
Arthur Lewis
Robert Liston
Luke Lonneman
Cesar Lopez-Comacho
Ryan Lucas
William Lustenberger
Michael Lustenberger
Luke Lykinslug
Anthony Mazzaro
Eric McCarthy



CONTRIBUTIONS CONT.

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Kylie Meyer (Baur)
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Marc Monahan
Bryan Moore
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Antonio Murphy
Stephen Myers
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Mark Oliver
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Tim Osner
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Benjamin Otto
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Gabriel Pitzer
Jason Plogmann
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Daniel Raterman
Scott Ray
Scott Rice
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Garry Schloemer
Jeffrey Schott
Ryan Schumann
Stephen Schwettmann
Natasha Simmons
Brianna Singer
Edward Sipniewski

Darryl Smith
Carlier Smyth
Christopher Snowden
Todd Stegmuller
Jason Stelter
Matthew Stickley
Micah Strong
Michael Swafford
Wayne Tate
David Taylor
Michael Taylor
Andrew Thieken
Robert Thomas
Mark Thomas
Matthew Todd
Rick Tonnis
Anthony Traum
William Turley
Jamil Turner
Camela Turrin
Jeffrey Tyree
Joshua Volkerding
Corey Vollrath
Joshua Wagner
Melvin Walker
Erin Wallace
Bryan Washington
Mike Wentzel
Eric Whitis
John Williams
Frank Jr. Willner
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Kelvin Woods
Kristen Worth
Douglas Wunder
Jacob Young
Joshua Zortman



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