

Why You Should Consider Going to the Wealth and Giving Forum (WGF)

The WGF is an opportunity for **peers to network with each other**, to discuss best practices, philosophy, passions in an environment that is secure and removed from the “daily grind.”

While some of the wealthholders with whom you work are experienced philanthropists, do know the “causes” that they want to support – they still can learn from their peers. The WGF is targeted at emerging, as well as seasoned philanthropists.

Participant Feedback

“The [event] was a gathering of philanthropists who wanted to go beyond giving. They were motivated to come together, share their experiences and learn what others had been doing in their philanthropy. You sensed not only the spirit of the philanthropists, but also the critical mass of ideas from all of these people coming together.”

– Garrick Utley, New York, NY

“It was truly a special weekend filled with an eclectic group of people whose primary objective was to make the world a better place. What an amazing and powerful step in gathering everyone together for such an unbelievable ‘Think Tank.’”

– Michael Rouse, Bryn Mawr, PA

“This was a new experience for us. And it had a dramatic impact because it allowed us to talk with and learn from people with similar interests...”

– Steve Ballentine, Avon, CT

“The weekend at The Greenbrier was a very powerful experience for us. The ability to sit down in an un-pressured environment to talk about philanthropy, our interests and our experiences was something we’ve never had a chance to do.”

– Gus and Jenny Carey, Horsham, PA

“The Forum was...outstanding. I’m surprised at how often I use the things I learned. I didn’t realize how much what I learned would impact my giving and my life.”

– Carleen Matosky, St. Paul, MN

“We were so impressed by all aspects on the event: the speakers, the topics, the sessions, the entertainment, the people. It was inspiring and educational. Congratulations on creating an environment that lent itself to introspection and drive .”

– Linda and Carlo Schejola, Tortona, Italy

“I would like to think that in ten to twenty years’ time, we’ll look back and say that in October 2004 at White Sulphur Springs, we did something that actually changed the world very positively.”

– Stephen Tindall, Auckland, NZ

“You are to be congratulated for bringing to life the noble concept and work of the Wealth & Giving Forum.”

– His Excellency Vaclav Havel, Prague, Czech Republic

The One Percent Club
1035 E. Franklin Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55404
Tel. (612) 455-5198
Fax (612) 455-5101
www.theonepercentclub.org

Giving

of Net Worth
Back to the Community

The One Percent Club News
Edition #68 March 2005



The mission of the One Percent Club is to increase charitable contributions in our community by engaging people to commit to a minimum standard of giving: the greater of 1% of net worth or 5% of income annually.

SURVEY: LAST MINUTE REMINDER

Since our inception in late 1997, we estimate that our members have brought in an additional \$100 million to the community. The survey information is the only way to help us measure our effectiveness and recruit new members. It’s important folks!

For those who have not done so, please take a couple of minutes to fill out the survey that was mailed to you. And return your completed survey as soon as possible. Your answers are completely anonymous; absolutely no attempt is made to connect your survey with you personally.

Ann and Bob Burns: Stretching to meet a personal goal

By Judith B. Schuster

Ann Burns had two personal reasons for joining the One Percent Club several years ago.

“Once I learned about the One Percent Club, I was excited about its message and mission, which to increase giving by individuals and families,” she said. “I liked the idea of telling people what they should give. Most members find that they can stretch to that goal without a lot of pain.”

And for Burns, the second reason, was that she could meet other members who were philosophically so inclined. “I’ve been successful at doing that,” she said. At the present time, she serves on the board of the One Percent Club and chairs the Contributions Committee, whose primary mission is to raise money for a very skinny budget through an annual dinner.

“Our committee helps find sponsors for that dinner,” she explained, “so that the Club’s expenses can be kept to a very minimum. The Club’s goal is to encourage giving to charitable organizations, but not to encourage giving to the Club itself. This dinner helps make that possible and keeps our expenses very low.”

Ann, an attorney, and her husband Bob Burns, who is with Goldsmith Agio Helms in Minneapolis, are joint members of the One Percent Club. They focus their joint contributions into three primary areas. The first is education, with major donations going to the University of St. Thomas Law School where she is on the Board of Trustees..

The couple have two healthy sons, ages 16 and 12, but Burns, who is an attorney at Rider Bennett in Minneapolis, specializing in estate planning, has many clients who are not as lucky. As a result, she’s learned a lot about Pacer, an organization for families with special needs. Pacer gets another significant contribution from the family. .

“Pacer is a parent advocacy group for children with special needs,” she explained. “Families can go there to learn about the resources that are available to them, such as special education programs. I have a lot of clients who have children who need these services, and I’ve referred them there with great success. The organization can help them deal with the challenge of raising children who have hearing problems or cerebral palsy or other medical issues.”

The third area, where they are just beginning to make contributions, is into a donor advised fund with the Minneapolis Foundation. “This is a relatively new area for us and, while we’ve begun funding it, we haven’t begun to make any contributions to community organizations. Our goal is to get our children involved in that as they grow up, they understand and adopt a similar philosophy of giving back to the community.” At their young ages, the Burns children are just beginning to learn about community service. As they mature, the parents expect that their children will be more involved with volunteer work and eventually with contributions of their own.

Burns doesn’t just contribute money to the organizations that she supports, she also contributes time. In addition to serving on the board of the One Percent Club, she is also a charter member of the Women’s Leadership Council of the Twin Cities United Way. This new organization is focused on involving Twin Cities’ women more heavily in philanthropy. In recognition of her membership on this board, Ann and Bob Burns made a significant contribution to it.

Ann Burns, who has been involved with Planned Parenthood since college, also supports them financially as well. “I love what they do in the area of education and with the important issue of family planning,” she explained. “They deal with issues that are critical for women of all ages.”

Giving is clearly already a way of life for Ann and Bob Burns. And it’s a way of life that they hope to pass on to their sons. The One Percent Club helps them do that.



Bob and Ann Burns, with their sons Kevin and Adam (left to right), have a goal “to get our children involved in . . . , understand and adopt a similar philosophy of giving back to the community.”