

Middle Tennessee Ohio State Club Scholarship Program



General

Starting in 1992, the Middle Tennessee Ohio State Club has each year awarded scholarship assistance to Ohio State freshmen from Middle Tennessee. The first awards were quite modest and provided a first-year payment of \$300 to one entering freshman each fall. We since have worked with the Alumni Association and the University Development Office to greatly expand the club's scholarship program.

Scholarship Award Procedures and Administration

In January, the University sends us a list of Middle Tennessee kids who have been accepted by The Ohio State University Admissions office. Our Scholarship Committee sends a Club Scholarship application to each prospect. These are returned with High School grade transcripts and letters of commendation from guidance counselors and teachers. Each applicant is also interviewed by phone, and the scholarship committee then meets to discuss and rank the applications. This ranked list is returned to the Ohio State Alumni Association who makes the final awards and notifies the kids.

The Stockwell Endowed Scholarship goes to the first applicant on the list, the ASP Scholarship goes to the second applicant, and one or more Scarlet and Gray Scholarships go to the following applicants in sequence. If an applicant decides to not attend Ohio State, the awards are 'bumped down' to the next applicant on the list. The final award determination is made by the University in combination with other financial awards the student may receive. All disbursement of funds to the student's account and monitoring of satisfactory academic performance are administered by the University as well.

The Scarlet and Gray Middle Tennessee Ohio State Club Scholarship

One or more Scarlet and Gray Awards are made each fall. The award is completely funded by the Middle Tennessee Ohio State Club. The award is \$600 for the freshman year.

The Alumni Scholars Program Scholarship

The ASP Scholarship is awarded each fall to an entering freshman. The \$600 award is funded by the Ohio State University Alumni Association, and the Middle Tennessee Ohio State Club funds another \$200 for a total award of \$800 for the freshman year.

The Lynne Murray Stockwell Memorial Scholarship

This Endowed Fund was established at the Ohio State University Development Office in May 2004 with gifts from family members and friends of Lynne Murray Stockwell, and from the Middle Tennessee Ohio State Club. The only purpose of this fund is to provide merit-based scholarships to deserving freshmen students from Tennessee high schools who are in the top 25% of their class. The \$1,000 per-year scholarship is awarded annually and is renewable for three additional years.

The first Stockwell award was made for Fall 2004. The endowment has grown to support additional awards for 2005, 2006, and 2007. The fund does not quite provide the \$4,000 needed each year to fund the four revolving scholarships. The fund balance built rapidly in the early years and produced excess income that carried forward to following years. More about this later.

Scholarship Funding Sources

- member donations to the club for one or both scholarships
- donations directly to the Ohio State Development Office designated for the Stockwell Fund #646980 or the Freshman Fund #302056
- club member dues received (80-90% of dues received each year go to the scholarship funds)
- weekly sale or drawings during game watches for the club's two season football tickets. Past club donations to Ohio State has accredited the club as a **President Club Member** eligible to **buy two season tickets each year**
- other silent auctions and sale of donated items during game watches

Scholarship Funding Status.....

When established in May 2004, the goal was for the Endowment to reach a \$100,000 donated balance by June 2009. That was the estimated balance needed to generate the \$4,000 in annual income necessary to fund a rolling series of four \$1,000 scholarships. As of June 30, 2008, the endowed balance is \$92,767 and income is projected at \$3,903 for this year. Fortunately, the fund balance built up quickly in the early years and generated a slight surplus of income that has helped carry us through 2007 and 2008.

.....and Challenges

As many of you know, the University has restructured the requirements necessary to be a qualified member of the Presidents Club. In order to maintain our club's membership, and eligibility to buy two season tickets for fundraising, we committed to raising \$5,350 per year through 2012 for our scholarship program.

Yes, that sounds like a big number, but for the past four years, our club donations to the Development Office has averaged over \$4,500 per year. We know of several planned donations to the Development Office between now and June 30, 2009. When we reach the Club goal of \$5,350 for 2008, plus those planned direct donations in the pipeline, we will attain the June 2009 \$100,000 goal we set 4 years ago.

To meet the 2008 club goal of \$5,350 **we need a few more scholarship donations** to the club, and **another 50 dues-paying members**. Buckeyes, we can surely do this.

Our mailing list for Middle Tennessee is 868 Buckeyes. Of those, only 242 have paid club dues even one time. But we do have 170 year-after-year stalwart dues-paying Buckeyes who keep the club's financial boat afloat. We also have 12-15 dedicated Buckeyes who do the newsletters, the college fairs & litter pick-up, organize the football trips, do the admin grunt work, and game watches. If you are not yet one of those 170 stalwart Buckeyes, we would love for you to come join us at Embassy Suites and be a part of the group.

If you use your employer's Matching Grant Program, your gift must go directly to Ohio State. Otherwise, we would prefer you send it to the club to count against the \$5,350 target we must meet.

Ohio State Development Office
1480 West Lane Avenue
Columbus, OH 43221

Ohio State Club
8212 Wikle Road East
Brentwood, TN 37027

Grow A Buckeye in Tennessee

When you support the club's scholarship program, you are helping to create new Ohio State graduates who will one day grow into lifelong Buckeyes. But our slogan has dual meaning. When you make a scholarship donation of \$250 or more **to the club**, you will receive a genuine Buckeye sapling to plant in your yard. Carol Huffman (see picture) planted a Yellow Buckeye sapling two years ago and it is absolutely thriving. To be fair about it, she does hug it and water it almost every day. You can do the same.

Club leader and perennial Buckeye cheerleader Jeff Linkinhoker is a graduate and licensed Landscape Architect from Ohio State, and is a 30 year resident of Tennessee. He has planted and cultivated a small plot of Buckeye trees at his home and provided them for club door prizes at our game watches. This year, he has offered to provide them to all club members who **Grow A Buckeye in Tennessee** with a \$250 or more scholarship donation to the Middle Tennessee Ohio State Club.

You can pick up your Buckeye tree at game watches, or we will deliver. We plan to have a web page with pictures of your Buckeye tree, and that should be a blast for all to see over the years.



GO BUCKS !!!