



Fiscal Year October 1, 2022– September 30, 2023

Annual Gratitude Report

2023

You Are The Key To Our Success



Our Mission

Old World Foundation enhances the preservation of Wisconsin history through local, independent support of museum visitation, educational outreach and maintenance of artifacts and buildings.

A Message from the Chair...



Rosanne McGuire

Dear *Friends* of Old World Wisconsin,
What an exciting year it has been for Old World Foundation, Old World Wisconsin, and all of those lucky enough to visit this past year.
The Brewhouse was in full operation, the outside of Wittnebel's tavern was finished, with work quickly shifting to the interior—and next year the furnishings paid for by Old World

Foundation will be put into place as the tavern opens in late summer.

Sponsoring the largest events at Old World Wisconsin this past year has placed Old World Foundation front and center at Home for the Holidays, Legends and Lore and Independence Day festivities. We have been able to connect with our current *friends* and meet so many more visitors.

Animal Encounters, sponsored by Old World Foundation has been a joy for so many of our *Friends*. This new program allows guests to learn about the preservation of Heritage Breed animals at Old World Wisconsin and shows visitors first-hand the on-going efforts we make to preserve history. More money was raised for the preservation of historic breed animals at our successful Sunset Soiree.

I would also like to recognize and thank Doug Bruins who will be leaving our board this year. Doug has served as our Treasurer since 2017 and we will miss his guidance.

Thank you for every dollar you donated, for every Old World Wisconsin memory you shared, and for every person you encouraged to visit. Our *Friends* group continues to grow its support of Old World Wisconsin each year. During Old World Wisconsin's past fiscal year, we provided over \$200,000 to help with education, preservation, the animal program, and the gardens. We couldn't have done it without your support and the hard work of our Old World Foundation staff and board of trustees.

Rosanne McGuire
Chair of the Board
Old World Foundation

Special THANKS to our Board of Trustees for their Leadership:

2022-2023 Trustees

Rosanne McGuire, Chair • Ron Buchholz, Vice Chair
Douglas Bruins, Treasurer • Kristin Koeffler, Secretary

Beth Heaney, Sue van Helden, Kathleen Hurley,
Jennifer Johnson, Larry Martin, Jennifer Motszko, Jean Thisis

Dan Freas, OWW Director and ex-officio member

Honorary Trustees

Terry Dignan
JoAnn Villavicencio
Sandy and George Dionisopoulos
Gordon Segal

Staff

Gwen Griffin, Executive Director
Robin Oldenburg, Bookkeeper/Executive Assistant

Trustees in Action



Greeting Guests at Independence Days



Strategic Planning



Thank You from Old World Foundation!



Gwen Griffin

As I look back over the nearly 40 years of support that Old World Foundation has provided to Old World Wisconsin, I am grateful for the generosity of our *Friends* and

partners. Your gifts have impacted Old World Wisconsin in countless ways. While we focused on the animal program and the conservation of the heritage breeds at Old World Wisconsin this past year, your gifts also touched so many other areas of this important historic attraction.

When you look over the pages of this Annual Gratitude Report, you will see the impact your gifts have made at OWW. In addition to supporting Old World Wisconsin by sponsoring *Home For The Holidays*, *Independence Days* and *Halloween Legends and Lore*, your gifts purchased a new riding lawn mower, benches, supplies for the period clothing department, and provided the opportunity for guests to enjoy unique dance performances. Your support also fed animals, planted gardens, maintained historic buildings, and educated children

while they experienced hands-on history...*THANK YOU!*

While Old World Foundation is approaching 40 years of supporting Old World Wisconsin, OWW is nearing their 50th anniversary. The Welcome Center/New Arrivals project will position Old World Wisconsin to expand their programming and welcome even more guests on-site. I look forward to the exciting opportunities ahead meeting more *Friends* and growing the financial support that Old World Wisconsin needs to enhance and expand their mission.

Gwen H. Griffin
Executive Director
Old World Foundation

Observations from Old World Wisconsin...



Dan Freas

Old World Wisconsin's "animal ambassadors" are regularly mentioned as favorite aspects of the guest experience. For many of our guests coming from urban or suburban areas, the sight of sheep grazing in the pasture of the 1860s Norwegian Immigrant Farm or pigs wallowing in the mud at the 1880s Pomeranian Immigrant Farm may be the first time seeing these animals in a farm context. Our guests are drawn to these animals, which creates opportunities for us to share the stories of these animals,

how their stories intertwine with human history, what animal husbandry was like in the past, and what the future might look like if these heritage breeds disappear.

With support from Old World Foundation, Old World Wisconsin has launched a multi-year initiative to enhance animal care facilities, educational programs, and conservation efforts associated with our heritage breed animals. This includes physical improvements to our 25-year-old animal care barn which provides a behind-the-scenes location for animals that need special care and for animals to be housed during the winter.

The animal care barn will also provide a location for a new Java Chicken conservation breeding program. Java Chickens are the second oldest breed of chicken developed in America. The popular homesteading fowl was used to develop many other American breeds, including the Jersey Giant, Plymouth Rock, and Rhode Island Red. Unfortunately, these breeds later eclipsed the Java in popularity and the Java conservation status is considered critical by the Livestock Conservancy.

During the past year, with matching funds provided by Old World Foundation, Old World Wisconsin was awarded a grant from the Livestock Conservancy to launch a

Java Chicken conservation breeding program. Beginning next season, you will find the Java chicken and its story featured at our new Animal Encounters experience. Unveiled in June and sponsored by Old World Foundation, Animal Encounters provides a location where guests can get close to some of our animals while learning about their history and conservation from a staff member or volunteer. Animal Encounters is an addition to the Old World Wisconsin general admission guest experience and open at scheduled times every day that OWW is open to the public.

Improvements to the animal care barn, the Java chicken conservation project, and our new Animal Encounters are just a few examples of how Old World Foundation is supporting our heritage livestock care, conservation, and education initiatives. To learn more about how you can get involved, contact Gwen Griffin at Old World Foundation.

Dan Freas
Director
Old World Wisconsin

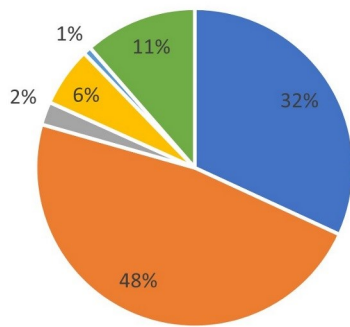
Your Impact this Past Year...

Thanks to your generous support of Old World Wisconsin through Old World Foundation, **\$177,290.05 was paid by Old World Foundation in support of Old World Wisconsin in OWF's past fiscal year.** Old World Wisconsin's fiscal year is July 1 through June 30 and in their past fiscal year, \$202,516 was gifted to them through Old World Foundation. These dollar amounts do not reflect what is raised by Old World Foundation in support of Old World Wisconsin annually, but instead reflects the amount that Old World Wisconsin requests for various projects and programs. For example, In 2022, thanks to the support from our *Friends* and partners, our Sunset Soiree event raised money for furnishings for Wittnebel's Tavern. Because the interior restoration work is not yet complete, the furnishings have not yet been purchased.

As you can see in the graph, in the past year, support through OWF was needed in the various ways. Each year OWW's needs change based on particular projects and programs, but our donors can give general "unrestricted" gifts to use where needed most, or gifts "restricted" to your particular area of interest.

OWW Support from OWF in Fiscal Year 2022-2023

- Education/Public Programs
- Animal Program
- New Arrivals (Brewhouse & Tavern)
- Garden Program
- Historic Preservation/Period Clothing
- Other



Old World Wisconsin Director, Dan Freas, accepts a symbolic check from Gwen Griffin, OWF Executive Director and Rosanne McGuire, OWF Board Chair. This check represents the financial support given to OWW this past fiscal year, all thanks to YOU!

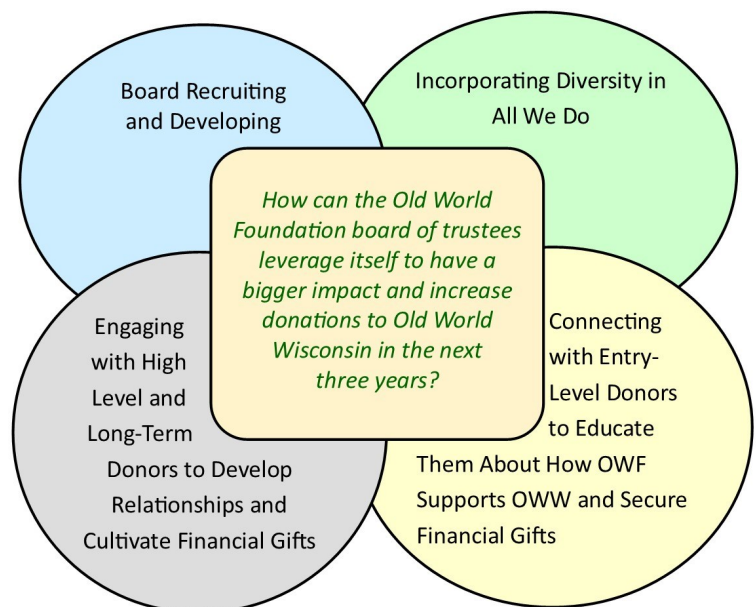
A New Strategic Plan

Strategic Plan—April 2023-March 2026

This past year, the Old World Foundation Board of Trustees embarked on a journey to create and implement a new strategic plan. This plan will help guide our organization for the next three years.

The question that guided this process was *“How can the Old World Foundation board of trustees leverage itself to have a bigger impact and increase donations to Old World Wisconsin in the next three years?”*

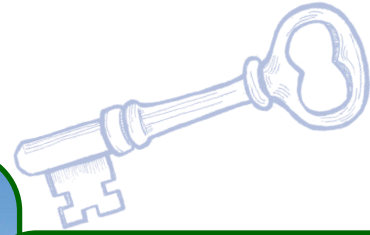
Our trustees identified 4 areas that we will work on to enhance our mission of supporting Old World Wisconsin, as can be seen in the info-graphic to the right.



Key Areas of Support...a few examples

Historic Preservation

- Paint for Thomas General Store
- Historic Building Repairs



Animals

- Animal Encounters Sponsorship
- Feed, Veterinary Care, Farrier Service, Bedding
- Purchase of new heritage breed animals including Oxen and Cotswold Sheep
- Tractor Parts
- Fence Rebuild

Gardens

- Garden Program Sponsorship
- Compost and Soil
- Plants & Seeds
- Tools



Education / Public Programs

- Education Program Sponsorship
- Independence Days Sponsorship
- Halloween Legends and Lore Sponsorship
- Home For The Holidays Sponsorship
- Field Trip & Summer Camp Supplies



Thank you to our anonymous *Friends* who purchased this new mower for OWW. A very necessary and appreciated gift!





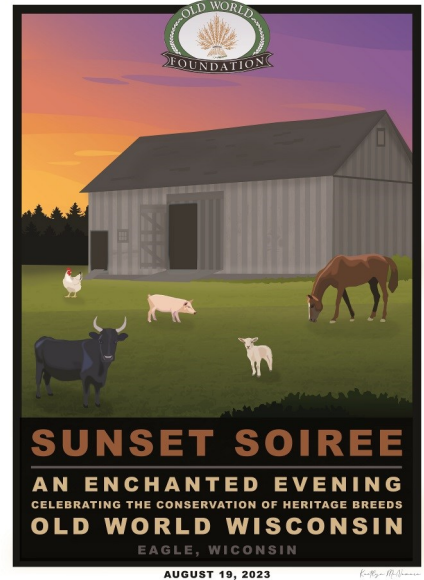
Chair's Challenge: The Conservation of Heritage Breeds

In the summer of 2023, Rosanne McGuire, Chair of Old World Foundation's Board of Trustees, issued a challenge to raise \$40,000 to fund the animal program and the conservation of the heritage breeds at Old World Wisconsin.

Our Friends and Supporters accepted that challenge and thanks to donations from individuals and company sponsorships, Old World Foundation surpassed our goal and raised \$43,927!

We also want to thank the two donors who matched all donations up to \$12,500.

We are grateful for the community of Friends and Supporters who are dedicated to conserving the animals which are an important part of living history at OWW. ***YOU are the key to our success!***



Donors at \$250 or more, were invited to a celebration of thanks at Old World Wisconsin in August...our *Sunset Soiree*.



OWF Board of Trustees



Greeting Guests and Cocktail Hour Fun!



A Look at Tavern Restoration before the Tram Ride



*With Sincere Gratitude, we recognize all who donated to the
Chair's Challenge for the conservation of heritage breeds at Old World Wisconsin:*

Anonymous
Bernice A. Balicki
Doug & Paula Bruins
Kevin & Nancy Brunner
Anthony & Andrea B. Bryant
Ron & Luann Buchholz
Kathleen & Mark Conrad
Mary & Brian Cook
Gerald & Ellen Schuh DeMers
Terry & Nancy Dignan
Pat & Roger Greathead
Shane & Gwen Griffin
Beth & Dwight Heaney
John & Jean Henderson
Kathleen & Robert Hurley
Joseph & JoLee Kennedy
Amy Kinosian
Joanne Kraut
Susan Kroll
Susan Lewis & Eric Larson

David Leef & Michelle King
Alice Lundstrom
Julie & Bob McGill
Rosanne McGuire
Meghan Meeker
Julia E. Meyers
Cindy & Jim Nelson
David Porter
Joe Quinn
Cheryl Rausch
Barbara & Bill Rodewald
Kathy & Ken Sadowski
Dennis James
& Gena Schachtschneider
Carolyn Schloemer
Truman & Barbara Schultz
Carole & Gordon Segal
Gary & Teresa Sommers
Lori & Vaughn Stock

Jean & Ron Theis
Angela Titus
Jan & Bill Tweeden
Susan & Brian van Helden
Justin & Kim Voden
Daniel & Pam Yerke
Amy & Daniel Young

Sunset Soiree Partners:

Citizens Bank, Corporate Sponsor
Creative Plastics Corp., Corporate Sponsor
Central Printing, Invitation Sponsor
Kaitlyn McNamara, Poster Artist
Highlights Media, Videographer
Heidi's Hobbies, Floral Centerpieces
Wausau Homes-Elkhorn, Bottled Water



We acknowledge the organizations and foundations who have given generous support this fiscal year...*Thank You!*

Anonymous
 Brookbank Foundation:
 Charles and MaryAnn LaBahn
 Citizens Bank
 Creative Plastics Corp.
 Derse Foundation, Inc.
 Four-Four Foundation
 Greater Milwaukee Foundation Funds:
 Anthony and Andrea Bryant Fund
 The Ceres Foundation Fund
 The Evan and Marion Helfaer Foundation
 The Herb Society of America--
 Wisconsin Unit

Hooper Corporation
 IAG Wealth Partners
 Kettle Moraine Garden Club
 The Arthur C. Kootz Foundation
 The Camille A. Lonstorf Trust
 Lorton Data Inc.
 LUMW Foundation
 Maihaugen Foundation
 Milwaukee Tool - Mukwonago Operations
 The Janice & Raymond Perry
 Community Fund Inc.
 Melitta S. and Joan M. Pick
 Charitable Trust

Segal Family Foundation
 Standard Process Inc.
 Waukesha State Bank
 Whitewater Generating Station/
 NAES



Thank You to our corporate partners for their support this past year!



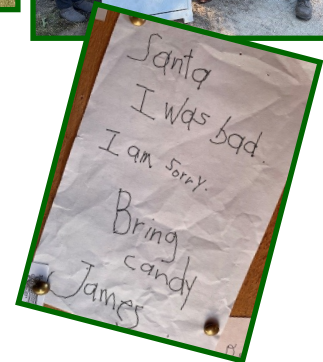
Blacksmith Experience
 Sponsors



Support for a trail enhancement, to make the trails at OWW accessible to all AND funding for a garden truck



Sponsorship Support
 of Santa's Workshop
 at Home For The Holidays



OWF's Annual Sponsors are Partners who offset operating expenses, allowing more funds to be used directly for projects and programs at Old World Wisconsin...*Thank You!*



With Sincere Appreciation, we recognize our *Friends* who have supported Old World Wisconsin through Old World Foundation for 20 Years or More:

Anonymous
George Affeldt
Sandra K. Anderson
Bernice Balicki
Bonnie Barber
William G. & Linda S. Bauer
Ramona Barwick
Kelly Cornelius & John Bjork
Mary Ann & Frank Brazelton
Michael J. Bruch
Karen & Harry Carlson
Tom and Lynda Curl
Gerald & Ellen Schuh DeMers
Terrence L. & Nancy Dignan
George & Sandy Dionisopoulos
Setsuko Owan & David Dobson
Joanne & Dan Dugenske

Fred & Anne Ehle
Linda A. Fahrenfrug
Patricia Fjetland & Linda Newton
William Flemming
Claire Gadbois
Jim Gramentine
Vivian Guzniczak
Robert & Heidi Hanley
Eunice & Warren Hansen, Jr.
Leon & Margaret Harris
Norris & Nancy Harstad
John & Jean Henderson
Earl W. & Eugenie Hildebrandt
Fr. Jack Hopka
Mary Claire Huck
Karen Hyde
Marilyn W. John

Beverly Karweik
Rick & Mary Kokan
Joanne Kraut
John Krugler
Cinda L. Berry & Arthur Krumrey
Lars & Barbara Larson
Peter Lovance
Robert C. & Donna Lucht
John & Julie Mann
Sandra Matson
Sally Mundt
Daniel R. & Gwynne Napientek
Steve Nass
Leon & Sharon Nelson
Marilyn Neumann
Richard A. & Sherene Nicolai
Kenneth Nieman
William & Jean O'Loughlin

Robert & Holly Ottum
Phyllis L. &
Donald Scharfenberg
Carolyn Schloemer
Carole & Gordan Segal
Jacqueline & Robert Smith
Jerome L. Stefaniak
Fred & Shelley Stich
David B. &
Prudence L. Sullivan
Terri Sundberg
Marilyn Swiontek
Carol Taylor
Phillip & Mary Tygum
JoAnn & Paul Villavicencio
Veronica Wallace-Kraemer
Martina & Allen Wegner
Dennis & Helen Williamson

Several organizations and individuals donated in-kind items valued over \$500 this past year. Your thoughtful donations are deeply appreciated... *Thank You!*

Central Printing ▪ Highlights Media
Jerry and Sherry Janiszewski ▪ Krueger Jewelers ▪ Milwaukee Tool
The Inn at Pine Terrace



Milwaukee Tool-Mukwonago cut brush in the summer and prepared for Halloween Legends and Lore in the fall.



Associated Bank prepared the garden paths.

CITIZENS BANK

Citizens Bank filled candy bags for Halloween Legends & Lore.



It is with great appreciation that we list the following individuals who have made a gift of \$100 or more this year (other than to the Chair's Challenge) :

Anonymous
 Elizabeth Adelman
 George Affeldt
 David and Sarah Allen
 Alice and Richard Appen
 Linda Bachowski
 Mike Zang and Barbara Bakshis
 Bernice A. Balicki
 Colleen Ball
 William G. and Linda S. Bauer
 Carol Berner
 Bonnie Birk
 Cheryl Bloomquist
 Ivan and Elizabeth Bogie
 Mary Ann and Frank Brazelton
 William A. and Joan Brock
 Dean Brown
 Michael J. Bruch
 Doug and Paula Bruins
 Kevin and Nancy Brunner
 Ron and Luann Buchholz
 Marilyn Campbell
 Karen and Harry Carlson
 Marcia Carmichael
 Joanne Carpentier-Kasner
 Kathleen & Mark Conrad
 Larry Martin and Martha Cranley
 Tom and Lynda Curl
 August and Sally Dahl
 Thomas A. Day
 Mary St. Ville and Duncan Delhey
 Gerald and Ellen Schuh DeMers
 Ann Derse
 Judith Derse
 Sally Devriend
 Bettie Petersen-Dicks & James Dicks
 Terry and Nancy Dignan
 George and Sandy Dionisopoulos
 Setsuko Owan and David C. Dobson
 Sandy and Peter Douglas
 Joanne and Dan Dugenske
 Lori Duginski
 Fred and Anne Ehle
 Michael Ellsworth
 Gerald H. and Signe Emmerich
 Linda A. Fahrenkrug
 Sue and Larry Ferry
 Tom and Le Ann Field
 Linda Newton and Patricia Fjetand
 Jane and John Frederick
 Kathleen Giesen
 Rita Giles
 Jim Gramentine
 Thomas and Mary Grossman
 Vivian Guzniczak
 Robert and Heidi Hanley
 Eunice and Warren Hansen, Jr.
 Norris and Nancy Harstad
 Pete and Sarah Harvey
 Beth and Dwight Heaney
 John and Audrey Hebert
 Michael Hecker
 Donald L. and Emily J. Henderson
 John and Jean Henderson
 Mary A. Hennemann
 Kathleen and Eric Herr
 Sandra and John Heyer
 Earl W. and Eugenie Hildebrandt
 Gregory and Robin Himebauch
 Fr. Jack Hopka
 Barbara Houk
 Mary Claire Huck
 Karen Hyde
 Jerry and Sherry Janiszewski
 Joel and Karen Jeanson
 Allen Johnson
 Bradley T. and Pamela J. Johnson
 Jennifer Johnson
 Yvonne Jones
 Beverly Karweik
 Michael and Joyce Kastern
 Amy Kinosian
 Brian and Terrie Knox
 Kristin Koeffler
 Rick and Mary Kokan
 Veronica Wallace-Kraemer
 Joanne Kraut
 John D. and Dee Krugler
 Bernard and Karen Kubale
 Linda Kutchman
 Justin and Amanda Kutka
 Lars and Barbara Larson
 Allen E. Last
 David Leef
 Tom and Deb Longtin
 Sally Long and Franklin D. Loo
 Peter Lovance
 Robert C. and Donna Lucht
 Alice Lundstrom
 Julie Lynn
 Kay and Duane Maas
 Gena Malenche
 John and Julie Mann
 Sandy Matson
 Rose Mary and Francis W. Matusinec
 Paul McCarty
 Fr. Michael McElwee
 Rosanne McGuire
 Meghan Meeker
 Dennis Meyer
 Courtney Miller
 Jennifer Motszko
 Charles Mowbray
 Sally Mundt
 Steve Nass
 Pat Castelli and Peter Newman
 Richard A. and Sherene Nicolai
 Paul Nowicki
 William and Jean O'Loughlin
 Robert and Holly Ottum
 Louise Pacholik
 Aimee Palmer
 Sarah and Matt Pancheri
 Curt and Wendy Paulsen
 John Peters
 James and Margaret Polglaze
 Hans and Cindi Joy Pregler
 Joe Quinn
 Joe and Marie Rakoczy
 Donna Rehbeck
 Kathy & Ken Sadowski
 Sandy A. and Randy Sannes
 Dennis James and Gena Schachtschneider
 Phyllis L. and Donald Scharfenberg

"We give to Old World Foundation to help preserve the past for future generations. Old World Wisconsin provides an excellent outdoor history lesson for everyone, especially school age children. We feel that donating to Old World Foundation is the perfect way to support and preserve Old World Wisconsin."



Doug & Paula Bruins

Doug is the Treasurer of the OWF Board of Trustees

Carolyn Schlomer
 Donna Schmidt
 Mark and Colleen Scholl
 Joan R. Schultz
 Carole and Gordon Segal
 Jennifer Smith
 Jacqueline and Robert Smith
 Leonard Sobszak
 Gary and Teresa Sommers
 Frank Stekel
 Darlene and John Sterzinger
 Edward Stevenson
 Lori and Vaughn Stock
 David B. and Prudence L. Sullivan
 Terri Sundberg
 Linda Surlis
 Donna and Sherman Swanson
 Roy and Donna Swedlund
 Marilyn Swiontek
 Joan Takala
 Carol Taylor
 Ron and Jean Theis
 Randy and Nancy Thelen, Thelen Total Construction
 Jan and Bill Tweeden
 Phillip and Mary Tygum
 Lois Vail
 Susan and Brian van Helden
 Richard Veed
 JoAnn and Paul Villavicencio
 Angela Villela
 Diane Voit
 Veronica Wallace-Kraemer

Terry Wandsnider
 Sheri Watkins
 Martina and Allen Wegner
 David and Mary Welnetz
 Nancy Wilhelm
 Andrew Willett
 John Williams
 Dennis and Helen Williamson
 Diana Wood



“Old World Wisconsin is a ‘Jewel’ right in our own backyard. We feel it’s so important to preserve our history and no place does it better than Old World Wisconsin. It is our pleasure to be of support as OWW continues to grow and provide a unique glimpse into the past for visitors of all ages.”



Nancy & Randy Thelen

*Long-time Friends & Supporters
 Owners, Thelen Total Construction*

With Stewardship and Integrity

Old World Foundation presents its year-end Statement of Financial Position

Assets	2023 (reviewed)	2022 (compiled)
Cash & equivalents	\$ 476,183	\$ 405,633
Pledges receivable	\$ —	\$ —
Prepaid expenses	\$ 5,626	\$ 2,693
Investments	\$ 712,551	\$ 657,875
Security Deposit	\$ —	\$ —
Office equipment	\$ 14,644	\$ 13,460
Leasehold improvements	\$ —	\$ —
Accumulated depreciation	\$ (13,154)	\$ (12,608)
Noncurrent pledges receivable	\$ —	\$ —
Total Assets	\$ 1,195,850	\$ 1,067,053

Draft Reviewed for September 30, 2023

Final report available by request from Old World Foundation.



Our thanks to the
photographers who
provided photos for this
report:

Gwen Griffin
Makayla Griffin
Jessica Spitzer
Ron Theis
OWW Staff

Old World Foundation's mission began in 1984 when a few dedicated supporters met and resolved to fund projects and programs at OWW that could not be adequately funded through state support and earned revenue.

We invite you to leave a legacy gift to Old World Wisconsin. Your generosity today will allow Old World Wisconsin to continue to share the stories of our ancestors in a fun and memorable way into the future.

You Are The Key To Our Success!

P.O. Box 347, Elkhorn, WI 53121

Telephone (262) 594-2922

Email friends@friendsoww.org

oldworldfoundation.org