



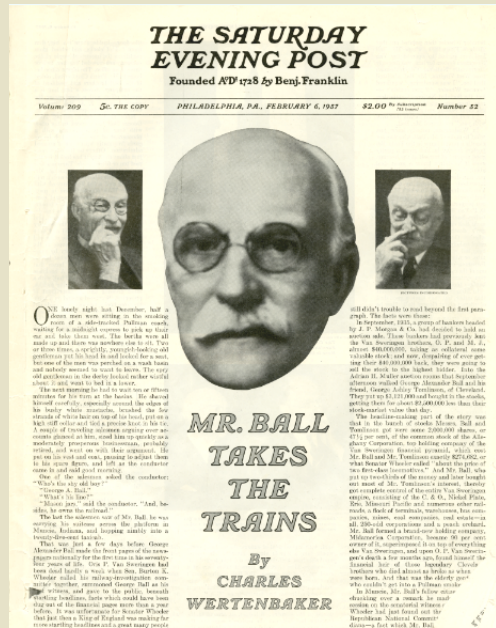
GEORGE AND FRANCES BALL FOUNDATION

DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

GEORGE BALL: LEADING A RAILROAD EMPIRE

Like his father, George was interested in business ventures and often invested in projects he thought were promising. This led him to get involved with all kinds of business endeavors like the Interstate Automobile Company, aiding Clyde E. Whitehill with opening a series of furniture stores, Intertype Corporation, General Households Utilities Company, Durham Manufacturing Company, as well as a wide variety of other companies. George purchased bankrupt companies and served on the board of numerous business groups. George's family referred to him as a "plunger" because he was approached through letters and telephone calls from people who proposed every imaginable form of business proposition.

In the mid-1930s he even briefly owned a railroad empire. This purchase catapulted George into the National spotlight when he found himself in possession of perhaps as much as \$3 billion worth of properties and stocks including 23,000 miles of track. The purchase caused a lot of commotion, and George wound up in *The Saturday Evening Post*. However, as fast as this



national attention was attained, the "empire" slipped from the news and when it was all said and done, George ended with little financial gain.

In addition to George's business undertakings, George Ball was extensively involved in the management of Ball Brothers Company. He served in key positions such as Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice President over his 60+ years with the company. In 1943 he took on the role of company President and continued in the position until 1948, when his nephew succeeded him. After that, George served as chairman of the board of directors until his death in 1955. From this vantage point, he saw the company change and expand over time growing from a small fledgling business to a global corporation.

IN THIS ISSUE

**HISTORY COLUMN:
GEORGE BALL: LEADING
A RAILROAD EMPIRE**

**PRIVATE FOUNDATION
DID YOU KNOW:
ROLE OF NETWORK
CONVENING**

**PARTNER SPOTLIGHT:
EDUCATION AT
INNOVATION CONNECTOR
WITH YOUTH AND
ENTREPRENEURS**

**UPDATE:
CRADLE TO CAREER
INITIATIVE**

IMPORTANT DATES

**NEWS:
KORTNEY AND KELSEY
COMPLETE BALL
BROTHERS FOUNDATION
FELLOWS PROGRAM**



**BOARD MEMBER
HIGHLIGHT: STEFAN
ANDERSON**



Board Member Ron Fauquier speaking at the Innovation Connector Excellence in Innovation Awards



Innovation Connector Excellence in Innovation Awards, Photo Credits: Muncie Journal

PRIVATE FOUNDATION: THE ROLE OF NETWORK CONVENING

One important role that foundations often play is that of network convening. While nonprofits are experts in the work that they do and have a front-row, grass-roots view of the work itself, foundations tend to see nonprofit work from a generalist perspective. Due to the interactions that foundations have with numerous nonprofits over the course of even a year, foundations are able to connect individuals and organizations for collaborative efforts. This connecting, or network convening, helps to build social ties throughout the community, build capacity across nonprofits focused on similar goals and missions, as well as reduce duplication of efforts. Network convening is another role that foundations play in social change in addition to grantmaking.



QUARTERLY SPOT-LIGHT: EDUCATION AT INNOVATION CONNECTOR

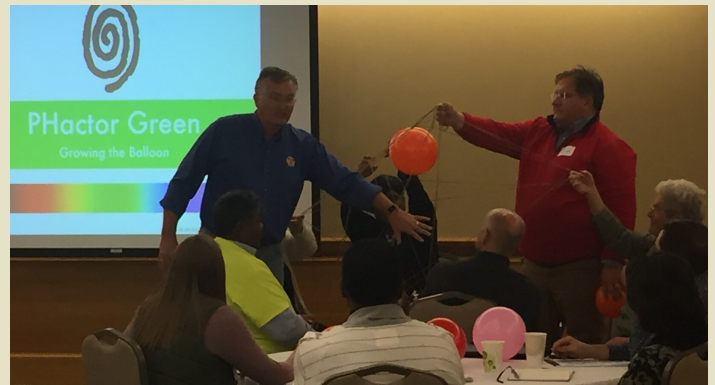
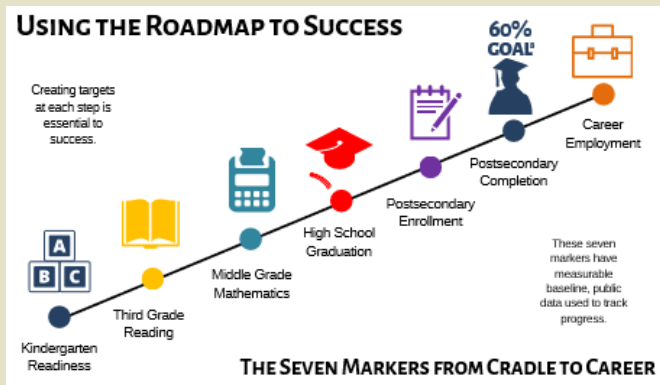
George A. Ball was a true entrepreneur and he was not afraid to take business risks. He was also a champion for education and made significant impacts on education through his participation on numerous boards and through financial investments from the George and Frances Ball Foundation.

An existing organization that marries George's two passions is the Innovation Connector. The Innovation Connector sits in one of Indiana's 22 technology parks. The Innovation Connector provides the space and tools to "launch or grow your business in the East Central Indiana community." Their sole existence is to help new entrepreneurs with truly unique business ideas turn their dreams into a reality. However, the Innovation Connector does not just focus on business, it also focuses on education. An example of their educational focus is through TechWise Academy's coding classes.

TechWise Academy teaches coding and technology through fun, innovative, and educational courses in East Central Indiana. "Current research indicates that "coding" is the new language of the next generation. Nearly half of the jobs in the United States are directly related to coding and programming." With this knowledge in hand, TechWise Academy launched their coding classes by teaming up with The Innovation Connector and developing the Coding Connector. Coding classes are offered to all students from Kindergarten to 12th grade.

The Innovation Connector's Excellence in Innovation Awards were Wednesday, November 13. Kortney was honored to present the Young Innovator's Award to Caleb Hunter. Caleb attends Royerton Elementary and developed an app to help parents with afterschool student pickup. The app was approved by the school board in May, and is now in beta testing.

Innovation Connector Information from: Innovation Connector Website
Website here: <https://innovationconnector.com/>



Derek Peterson , Web of Support Presentation

UPDATE: CRADLE TO CAREER INITIATIVE, 60% EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT GOAL AND THE IMPORTANCE OF SUPPORTIVE, POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS

A lot of time and research has been devoted to the Cradle to Career Initiative over the past 18 months. There are numerous moving parts that make up the Initiative, but there is one extremely important piece that remains consistent through all the research and studying of different communities. This consistent takeaway is the importance of mentors or significant individuals in the lives of young people.

Behind every successful person is a “team” of individuals who has helped guide them along the way. The GFBF staff was introduced to Derek Peterson’s “Web of Support” concept which states that all people need at least five trusted adults in their lives. Without a “web of support” in place, it would be extremely hard for an individual to reach their full potential. GFBF has also partnered with Muncie Action Plan (MAP) and Sustainable

Muncie to address the need for supportive relationships for all people across Muncie and Delaware County. Based on community input, MAP identified the public's desire to expand and develop local mentoring programs. Derek’s “Web of Support” would offer a community wide approach for connecting people to one another in intentional, meaningful ways.

After months of planning, an initial face-to-face conversation about “Web of Support” took place on October 23rd with approximately 15 community leaders. Derek was then able to visit Muncie on October 31st. He held a two-hour presentation as an introduction to “Web of Support” with about 40 community leaders in attendance. MAP is continuing conversations with Derek and additional information will hopefully be presented to the community in early 2020.

IMPORTANT DATES

BOARD MEETINGS:

March 6, 2020

Grant Deadline: February 6

May 14, 2020

Grant Deadline: April 14, 2020

*Grant requests are reviewed in the month between the deadline and corresponding Board Meeting. The board votes and makes final funding decisions at the meeting. Grant seekers should anticipate communication from GFBF within a month following the Board Meeting date.

RECOMMENDED BOARD CONFERENCES:

Commonfund Forum

JW Marriott Grande Lakes, Orlando, FL March 8th-10th

Indiana Philanthropy Alliance Foundations on the Hill Conference

JW Marriott, Washington, D.C. March 9th-11th

National Forum on K-12 Philanthropy

Westin Riverwalk, San Antonio, TX April 29th-30th



BOARD MEMBER HIGHLIGHT: STEFAN ANDERSON

Stefan (Steve) Anderson has been a valued member of the George and Frances Ball Foundation for 33 years. Steve brings passion and leadership to all of the work that he is engaged in. He is community focused and dedicates his time and talent to helping people and organizations reach their full potential. Steve is a local visionary, and is considered by many as a mentor, leader, and friend.

Steve came to Muncie in his career with First Merchants Corporation. In addition to his successful business career, Steve has served and/or chaired many boards including the Indiana Nature Conservancy, Indiana State Museum, Crossroads Council BSA Foundation, Muncie Symphony, BSU Foundation, United Way, Innovation Connector, Community Foundation, Motivate Our Minds, Cornerstone Center for the Arts, IU Health BMH Foundation, Minnetrista, and Delaware Advancement Corporation. Steve has been a Featured Listee in the Marquis Who's Who numerous times, even earning the 2019 Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement. He was inducted into the Ball State University Business "Hall of Fame" in 1996, and awarded the 2006 Tech Point Bridge Builder Award.

The list of achievements does not end there. Steve was recognized for his community service with the 1993 Martin Luther King Service Award. The Indiana



Council of Economic Education awarded him the 1994 Paul Samuelson Award. Muncie has recognized Steve for his outstanding dedication to the community with the 2002 Star Press "Citizen of the Year" award and the 2008 Muncie/Delaware County VIVA Lifetime Achievement Award. Steve was awarded the Distinguished Eagle Award in 1995 and the Silver Beaver Award in 2017.

Steve has been a vital part in developing George and Frances Ball Foundation's new strategic proactive grantmaking strategy that is focused on driving positive community impact through educational attainment. The Foundation thanks Steve for six years of visionary leadership as the Chairman of the Board, and his continued legacy of leadership and support, both on the Board and in the community.

KORTNEY AND KELSEY COMPLETE BALL BROTHERS FOUNDATION FELLOWS PROGRAM

On December 17, 2019 Kelsey and Kortney will complete the Ball Brothers Foundation Fellows Program. The seven-month program focuses on providing East Central Indiana nonprofit leaders and outstanding community leaders an opportunity to broaden their understanding of the foundation world. The purpose of the program is to better understand how Ball Brothers Foundation (BBF) operates, better understand private foundations, gain nonprofit management skills, and develop stronger leaders. It is also an opportunity for BBF to invest in local nonprofit leaders and engage them in conversations to hear their ideas and perspectives on nonprofit management and current community issues, demonstrate transparency, and receive feedback and insights from grantees. For Kelsey and Kortney, the program covered the history of foundations, historical philanthropists, book readings and discussions, and a site visit to Foellinger Foundation in Ft. Wayne. This opportunity provided professional growth, and was a valued learning opportunity for the George and Frances Ball Foundation program staff. We want to thank BBF for allowing us to participate.

For more information, please contact us at admin@gfballfdn.org or visit us at www.gfballfdn.org.



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