

# THE CARL B. KERN FUND

## of The Dayton Foundation

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### DAYTON FOUNDATION:

Marva Cosby; *Governing Board Chair*  
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### KERN FUND ADVISORY BOARD:

Stuart T. Weinberg, MD; *Chair*  
Sarah E. Kuhn  
Thomas M. Kuhn  
William C. Pees

February, 2022

Hello!

The Carl B. Kern Fund Advisory Board is once again proud to present this year's Annual Report as we mark **35 years** since the Fund's creation. For those receiving this Annual Report for the first time - likely the result of a past association with YMCA Camp Kern, a Dayton background (including the YMCA and Dayton Foundation), and/or me(!) - the Advisory Board hopes you'll take a few minutes to browse through these pages, especially our cumulative summary on page 4 summarizing how distributions have been used through the years. You may even recognize some of the names appearing in our donors list and honorary/memorial gifts, spanning periods of Camp Kern's and Dayton's history.

The [kernfund.org](http://kernfund.org) website details our relationship with **The Dayton Foundation** since **November, 1987** and describes our efforts to fulfill the purpose of the Fund - paying tribute to former Dayton YMCA Boys' Work Secretary "C.B." Kern by honoring his memory and providing financial support in perpetuity for one of his most cherished activities - working with youth in an outdoor camp setting. The website includes comprehensive financial information, a complete list of Honorary and Memorial Gifts, a summary of yearly distribution amounts to **YMCA Camp Kern** since 1989, and an extensive biographical section on Carl B. Kern. Please also check out our Facebook page where Fund updates, stories, and pictures are posted periodically: [www.facebook.com/cbkernfund/](https://www.facebook.com/cbkernfund/)

This past year, the annual distribution check - which is usually presented in June at camp's **Strawberries and Ice Cream** event, - was instead mailed directly to Camp Kern from The Dayton Foundation in mid-June. The **\$20,000** check was used for 2 different purposes - \$10,000 went to the 2022 Camp Kern Annual Campaign to fulfill camper scholarship requests, and \$10,000 went to improvements at the **Circle K Ranch**, including a "**Sponsor a Stall**" project. Total distributions to Camp Kern on behalf of the Fund since 1987 have now reached nearly **\$217,000**. The continued growth of the Fund's balance will result in even larger distribution amounts in the future. Towards that end, 2021 saw a record **92** donors from **25** states donate **\$27,979.00**, including several first-time donors. Thanks to the individuals listed in this report, plus a strong 2021 investment market, the 2021 year-end Fund balance increased to **\$580,099.37**.

Support for camps during this pandemic period has been critical. On behalf of the Kern Fund Advisory Board - including new Board Member, former camper, and great-great-niece of C.B. Kern, **Sarah E. Kuhn** - thanks so much to everyone who has made this support possible.

Sincerely,

Stuart T. Weinberg, MD, *Chair*  
Carl B. Kern Fund Advisory Board  
Kern Camper '68-'74; Staff '75-'78, '80-'82, '84; Board '85-'89  
[stwmd@stwmd.net](mailto:stwmd@stwmd.net)

# 113 Gifts from 92 Donors in 2021 Totaling \$ 28,059.00

*as of February 9th, 2022.*

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Anonymous	Cheryl Majewski
Mr. and Mrs. William Allbery	Megan Marino
Karen Kreitzer Allen	Larry Maxwell
Tim and Lucy Baker	Pat McClain
Kent Barnheiser	Fred and Holly McConnaughey
Douglas Beattie	Dr. and Mrs. Gerald Molfenter
Bill and Kathy Beck	Scott and Rebecca Molfenter
Tim Blank	Todd Molfenter and Family
Mike Boehmer	Eric Moll
Harry L. Bradbury	Ginger Murphy
Elaina Garvin Briant	Gary and Carol Packer
Thomas Bridgman	Thomas L. Parkinson
Phil Burckle	Mr. and Mrs. Michael M. Parks
Scott Burris	Victoria Parsons
Jennette L. Caden	Mary Jon Stanley Peterson
Colin Campbell	Scott Peterson
Susan Chandler	Si Pitstick
Karen Cossman	Steven and Tara Poelzing
Bob Crafton	Walter Poelzing
Lainie P. Croke	Dr. Richard & Marlene Poeppelmeier
Jim and Ellen Davis	Sean and Katie Potito
Jeff Davis	Bambi Puckett
Kevin Davis	Greg Ramm
Emily Landis Dennis	Tom Reel
Amy and Paul DiMario	Blythe Duke Sather
Steve Dimlich	Mike Sherman
Mike Ditmer	Gerry and Stacy Siegert
Galen 'Breo' Emery	Rich Sievers
The Erbaugh Family	Tom and Rosemary Slobodnyak
The J. Martin Erbaugh Family	Lynn and Tim Sparks
Dean Erskine	Jack P. Sperry
James and Nancy Gogle	Mike and Jen Stanton
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas G. Grant	Michael J. Sterzer
Alec and Felicia Hail	Cheryl Arnold Stevens
David C. Hanselman	Dick and Muriel Trowbridge
Michelle Hill	Donald Vigliotti and Kathy Selvaggi
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur D. Jackson, Jr.	Stuart and Anne Weinberg
Dean Johnston	Randall Weiner
Joseph Family	Amy and Penn Whitlow
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth R. Keppel	Betsy B. Whitney
Beth Kuhn	Steven and Nancy Myers Winniford
Melissa Milburn Kuns	Joan Wright
Scott Lambert	Deanna Zikias
Laurie and Brent Leon	

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**Gifts Received in Honor of:** All Camp Kern Ranch Staff; Rocco, Jean and Dominic Baker; Dr. Von Kernberg; Tami Opferkuch Kesling; Barb Newill Klatt; Leigh Randolph Pickenpaugh; Mike Sherman; Zach and Nick Siegert; Lynn Arnold Sparks; Stuart Weinberg

**Gifts Received in Memory of:** Elaine Amburgey; Bill Arnold; Tami Greenfield Boehmer; Barbara W. Bradbury; James Cossman; Bob Daganhardt; Robert and Jane Emery; J. Martin 'Marty' Erbaugh; George E. and Penny Kuhn; Tom Majewski; Jackie Maxwell; Rick E. Molfenter; Margie Myers; Robert S. Neff; Viola Packer; William Parkinson; Carol J. Rhyner; Jack and Marilyn Singerman; Marilyn Singerman; George P. Sperry, MD; Walter G. and Earl E. Sterzer; Bob Terwillegar; Amy Turley; Lee Whitney; Dick and Marge Youngen

**Comments:**

In honor of **Lynn Arnold Sparks, Tami Opferkuch Kesling, Barb Newill Klatt, and Leigh Randolph Pickenpaugh** - "These then-young women helped me grow more confident. I treasure my memories of the Triple K Ranch." - *Emily Landis Dennis*

In honor of **Mike Sherman** - "Mike taught us how to tell stories, and I have now been telling stories for camps, churches, schools, and many other venues for almost 45 years." - *Nancy Myers Winniford*

In honor of **Zach and Nick Siegert** - "Our sons have been campers/counselors for close to twenty years and Camp Kern has been a life-changing experience for them." - *Gerry and Stacy Siegert*

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In memory of **Elaine Amburgey** - "A true lover of children and the outdoors." - *Melissa Milburn Kuns*

In memory of **Bill Arnold** - "Bill (my father) introduced me to Kern as a family camper in the 60's. He worked there in the late 40's when it was at the bottom of the hill. Thus started a long-term association with Kern that persists to this day. My sister Cheryl and I are living proof that Kern blood can be inherited." - *Lynn Arnold Sparks*

In memory of **Tami Greenfield Boehmer** - "Tami loved her days at Camp Kern and often commented how it changed her life. She especially liked serving as a camp counselor. Camp Kern made a dramatic impact on her life." - *Mike Boehmer*

In memory of **J. Martin 'Marty' Erbaugh** - "Camp Kern meant so much to Marty. It helped shape him as an adult, spouse and father. He told many Camp Kern stories to me and his three beautiful daughters. I know it would mean a lot to Marty to give back to a camp that gave him so much in his formative years." - *Lynne Erbaugh*

In memory of **George E. and Penny Kuhn** - "Carl B. Kern was George's uncle; brother to his mother Beulah Kern." - *Beth Kuhn*

In memory of **Rick E. Molfenter** - "As always - Rick always looked forward to going to Camp Kern!" - *Dr. and Mrs. Gerald Molfenter*

In memory of **Margie Myers** - "Margie was employed at Central YMCA as secretary for **George Coleman**, who was right hand to General Secretary **Maurice Gogle** and others who replaced him. She was my cousin and worked at the Y more than 50 years! Many of you will remember Margie, as she was organist for our church in Farmersville over 50 years. She encouraged me to also work at the Y. I was secretary to **Lou Cox** and **Harry Bradbury** in the Physical Dept. While working there, I met Pep (**Dick Poepelmeier**) who was helping out in the Boys Dept. He was a leader at Day Camp, and spent 5 years at Camp Kern, as well as teaching swimming, at the Y, participating on the swim team, gymnastics team, Leaders Club etc. When Pep brought a small snake back from day camp one time to scare me - I knew that he liked me. Ha. We've been married 64 years. Pep, Senior, was involved at the Y also, serving on various committees. We owe our long and happy marriage to cousin Margie." - *Dr. Richard and Marlene Poepelmeier*

In memory of **Viola Packer** - "Dedicated nurse." - *Gary and Carol Packer*

In memory of **Walter G. and Earl E. Sterzer** - "Whose experience at the Old Camp in the 1930's was invaluable." - *Michael J. Sterzer*

In memory of **Amy Turley** - "We lost Amy last year. I met her at Ranch Camp. She loved Camp Kern." - *Susan Chandler*

## Use of Distributions from The Carl B. Kern Fund

Since the first distribution check of **\$201** was presented to then Executive Director **Larry Maxwell** at camp's Strawberries and Ice Cream event in **June, 1989**, approximately **\$217,000** in funds have been used to support many efforts, among them:

- Camper scholarships (camperships) requests (1989-present) – **\$84,500**
- The Harry Schiewetz Assembly Hall - Carl B. Kern Auditorium (2005-2007) - **\$50,000**
- The Charles Snyder Recreation Hall (2012-2015) - **\$25,000**
- The Camp Kern Centennial Campaign (2008-2010) - **\$15,000**
- The Camp Kern Lodge Renovation Campaign (1999-2001) - **\$14,500**
- The Dayton YMCA Capital Campaign (1996-1998) - **\$10,000**
- The Circle K Ranch Improvement project including “Sponsor a Stall“ (2021) - **\$10,000**
- Partial funding for directional signage and the Climbing Tower (2002,2003) - **\$6,000**
- Kern camper/staff participation in World Camp 1994 and 1998 (1994,1998) – **\$2,000**

Detailed yearly distribution info is available under the '**Finances**' dropdown on **www.kernfund.org**

## Thanks to Our Estate Gifts

There have been four (4) estate gifts since the creation of The Carl B. Kern Fund. Thanks to the following individuals for their significant contributions to the Fund through their bequests:

- **George E. Kuhn** - (deceased March 1, 2001) - nephew of Carl B. Kern; founding Kern Fund Advisory Board member (1988-1999)
- **Roz Young** - (deceased August 18, 2005) - widow of former Camp Kern Director William A. 'Uncle Bill' Young; noted Dayton educator, historian and journalist
- **Mary Kuhn Sigel** - (deceased July 12, 2007) - niece of Carl B. Kern
- **Robert Salisbury** - (deceased July 26, 2016) - former Camp Kern Camper/Staff, 1935 thru 1949; former YMCA director in Dayton, Cleveland, St. Louis, and Milwaukee

## Slide Presentation Available

A 15-slide presentation covering the history and activities of The Carl B. Kern Fund has been developed and is available on **www.kernfund.org** under the 'About Us' dropdown.

## How to Donate

If you would like to make a donation to The Carl B. Kern Fund, there are mail-in and online options available. Please click on the '**DONATE!**' link in the top navigation bar of **www.kernfund.org**.

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*It is quite impossible in a small space - or even a large one - to do justice to a great character. The life of Carl B. Kern will never be adequately written, yet it is very real. It was 'caught' by the boys whom he touched and goes on re-infecting those whom they touch. The power of his example, the results of his efforts are as the bit of yeast that is saved after each baking to leaven all the succeeding loaves."*

Tribute Booklet to C.B. Kern  
Dayton Y.M.C.A. Boys Dept., 1918