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## YEAR-END 2017 NEWSLETTER

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### Joan Cormier Celebrates 50 years with LRSF!

Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation donors and benefactors, past and present Board of Trustee members, past and present staff of the Foundation as well as family and friends gathered in September at the Saint Andre Bessette Parish Hall to celebrate Joan Cormier's 50 years with the scholarship Foundation.

Once the guest of honor greeted the guests present, a number of presentations were made to recognize Joan's long service to the young people of the Lakes Region. There was a commendation from Governor Sununu, a proclamation from the mayor, a biographical roast read by Steve Loughlin and prepared by staff member, Barbara Cushing Moore, who has worked with Joan for many years, a number of letters from those who were unable to attend, as well as time for those present to offer their praise and recognition for this lovely lady. The evening concluded with the presentation of a gift from the Board and then those in attendance were treated to the artistic talents of Larry Frates, who sketched a caricature of the guest of honor in front of the audience and presented it to Joan. Although Joan officially retires in mid-January at the LRSF Annual Meeting, she intends to continue working part time with the Foundation for some time, in order to support the new directors.



### MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT, DONNA HENNESSEY

Happy New Year! As the new year begins, I will be stepping up to the position of president of the Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation. I have been with the foundation since 2012, first as a Trustee, then Vice President under Mike Nolan. I would like to start by saying thank you to Mike Nolan, for all his accomplishments over his past couple years as president of the Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation. I have some big shoes to fill. I look forward to serving the Foundation as President the next two years. To recap this year, we awarded scholarships to 286 local students to continue their education through the generosity of 250 donors. We were the recipients of 11 new funds. We also upgraded our computers and systems with help from the \$27,500 in grants we received from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation and the Bank of NH. The computers are up and running! Our Annual Community Spelling Bee was a great success with net proceeds of over \$10,000 the best year we have ever had! I want to thank our staff members, Steve Loughlin, Barbara Cushing Moore, Suzanna Derynioski and Aprill Morgan for their hard work and dedication to the Foundation for making all this happen.



As we wrap up 2017, I would like to thank those Trustees to whom we will be saying goodbye: Lisa Bianco, who has been with us for nine years and has reached her term limit, and Sarah Svindland, who has been with us since 2012. They have been valued members of our team, sharing their knowledge, time, and expertise over the years. We wish them every success in the future, they will be missed. Another LRSF family member we said goodbye to this year was, Doreen Richards, our Financial Aid Counselor moved on to a new position this summer, we wish her continued success in her new career move.

Looking forward to the new year, we have a few changes from last year. Paulette Loughlin will be stepping up to the Executive Director position and Karen Switzer came on as our new Assistant Director in the Fall. Together they will take on Joan's Cormier's role. Yes, it does take two people to fill Joan's shoes! With the beginning of a new year we will also be welcoming a couple of new members to the Board of Trustees. Fredda Osman recently retired from the State of NH Department of Health and Human Services working with local health centers and area agencies, as well as being the donor representative for three of our donor funds: the Ed & Polly Chertok fund for her family, the LHS class of 1965 and the LHS Class of 1933, where she has long represented her dad. Marj Wilkinson is a retired teacher who shared her love of language arts for many years with the young people at Memorial Middle School. She is involved in a number of volunteer activities in the area and is the donor representative for the LHS Class of 1964.

However, we are not going to just rest on our laurels, we are already planning for an outstanding 2018 to follow our success of last year. Scholarship applications for 2018 are now available on line through our website: [www.lrscholarship.org](http://www.lrscholarship.org) with an application deadline of April 1, 2018. The Annalee Thorndike Art Competition committee is working and planning for the art show in April. Our Donors' Day date has been set for Wednesday, May 23rd and we have tentative plans for our 18th Annual Community Spelling Bee this coming October. All this will not be possible without the support of our donors, benefactors and the Lakes Region Community.

Keep looking for us on line at our website: [lrscholarship.org](http://lrscholarship.org), on Facebook, and in the newspapers. Thanks to all for your support!



**Musings from Mike Nolan:** Although my term as president will expire at the 2018 Annual Board of Trustees' meeting, I am pleased continue to serve LRSF in the position of past president and trustee for another year. In addition to helping so many students in their scholastic and career goals, it has been rewarding knowing that the services provided by LRSF have also benefitted so many donors, whether they are organizations serving the community or those wishing to recognize their loved ones. As of year-end 2017, we are honoring the following donor funds five-year benchmarks anniversaries and recognizing new donor funds established. LRSF is unique in that additions may be made to any established fund at any time. We extend our heartfelt condolences to those who have lost loved ones this year and chose to honor them through new memorial funds or additions to existing funds.

### **2017 New Funds, Memorials Or Additions to Already Established Funds**

**The Ken (1930-2017) & Minnie (1929-2017) Blackey Memorial** -From 1962 to 1989 Kenneth Blackey served as Treasurer of the Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation, as well as two more years on the Finance Committee. For many years Mr. Blackey, a Bentley graduate and retired banker, and Mrs. Blackey personally funded scholarship awards, being firm believers in the foundation's mission of supporting and encouraging youngsters to fulfill their educational and career goals. Ken was an active member of his church and his community. He urged others to "Get involved. It really makes a difference." Minnie Blackey was an active member of the Mountain View Church in Sanbornton, a devoted wife and mother and was always generous to all whom she met with a kind word and smile. (Mr. & Mrs. Blackey pictured at right).



**Glenn Gary DePine Memorial Fund** was established by his mother in 2017, with additional funds added by family members. Glenn began his music career in 4th grade at Sacred Heart School in Laconia. He loved playing the trumpet. Glenn enjoyed teaching and passed on his love of music to his many students, whether it be in public schools or private lessons. He also worked as a professional trumpet player working in many diverse areas. This fund was created to assist a Laconia or Gilford High School graduate, majoring in music or has been a long-time member of the music program, to fulfill their educational goals. (Glenn DePine pictured at the left)

**Gilmanton American Legion Auxiliary Stockwell Award**-The Gilmanton American Legion Auxiliary, Ellis-Geddes-Levitt Unit #102, has created an endowment fund through the Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation to perpetuate the Stockwell Scholarship, which has been awarded by the group since 1982. The award was named for Ruth and Leonard Stockwell, who served respectively as first President of the Legion Auxiliary and Commander of the Legion. The American Legion Auxiliary, was founded in 1919, and is the world's largest patriotic women's service organization meeting the needs of veterans and keeping those needs front and center in the minds of the American public. The Ellis-Geddes-Levitt Unit was chartered in 1956 in honor of three young men who died during World War II, the sons of Gilmanton families. This generous gift will continue to help college-bound high school seniors, who are residents of Gilmanton. The group will continue to select recipients based on an essay competition on the theme "What it means to you to be an American and live in the USA."

**Arthur Gordon Memorial Fund** was established in his honor by a long-time best friend. Mr. Gordon (1930-2017) was respected in the Lakes Region as an astute businessman. He had started five IGA stores, including the one in Laconia, that he built and developed with his cousin. Following the sale of these stores, he was involved in a number of other successful entrepreneurial pursuits. He also enjoyed playing golf, flying his plane, boating and reading. Both Arthur and his wife and soul-mate, Irene, were staunch supporters of Laconia and its Jewish community and were involved in many worthwhile community programs.

**Stephen S. Jewett IV's** (1984-2017) life ended all too soon, as did his father's, Stephen S. Jewett III (1960-1986). They both gave so much of themselves to others. Stephen IV cared deeply for people and sought to help those less fortunate than him. As an organ donor, he continues to give countless individuals the gift of restored health and life. **The Stephen S. Jewett III Memorial Scholarship Fund** began from substantial donations received in his honor and perpetuates his many years of dedication to the Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation by helping students fulfill their educational and career goals. Sadly, this fund has recently been increased through additional gifts in memory of his son and namesake. Our deepest condolences to their family.

**Don Kimtis Award** was established by the Laconia Police Officers' Association. The police officers serving the city on a daily basis wanted to give back to the community in a different way, and how better than investing in our youth. The scholarship was named after Don Kimtis, a retired Laconia Police Officer. "Donny K", as he was commonly called, worked as a patrolman for Laconia PD for nearly two decades, and he served as the city's DARE Officer for many of those years. Donny has also dedicated much of his own time to community events. Whether he has been a DJ-ing at school or city functions, or promoting the NH Special Olympics, Donny K was always willing to help out, always willing to give of himself for the betterment of the group. In this community spirit emulated by Don Kimtis, this scholarship is offered to deserving youth with the hope that as they progress in life's journey, that they will give back to their community, where ever that may be.



**Laconia Emblem Club Endowment**-The Laconia Emblem Club established in 1940, was one of the original donors to LRSF when it began in 1956. Over the past sixty-two years, the Emblem Club has awarded nearly \$46,000 in scholarships through LRSF. In September of this year, the Laconia Club board unanimously voted to ensure that the Club's proud legacy would live on in the community through their generous gift to the LRSF, establishing a permanent scholarship endowment fund.

(pictured on right: 1 to r-Sandra Bolduc (Emblem President), Joan Cormier (LRSF Executive Director and Marilyn Dunn (past president of Emblem Club) Pictured left: Standing (1 to r) Cecile Campbell, Marilyn Dunn, Joan Cormier, Carole Davis, Sally Hibberd, Sandra Bolduc; seated (1 to r) Paulette Loughlin and Junie Landry.



**Vincent Charles Ladd (2017)**-Born in Laconia on May 29, 1967, Vincent was the son of Keith and Etta Ladd. Vincent was a happy, loving and courageous young man, with a real sense of humor. Garfield the cat was his favorite character. Vincent's smile lit up a room. He grew up in Belmont, attended Belmont High School and died of a brain tumor on April 30, 1985 during his junior year at BHS. Vincent sang in the BHS chorus and really enjoyed music. He owned a substantial variety of albums and cassettes and loved to sing along with them through his karaoke microphone. Vincent was a member of the United Baptist Church in Lakeport, its youth group and junior choir. He loved people, his Savior and spending a week during each of nine summers at Camp Sentinel in Tuftonboro (serving as a junior counselor his last year there). People said of Vincent, that he always tried to make a person's day brighter. This fund was established anonymously, this past year, by a Belmont High School alumnus. (Vincent Ladd pictured at the right)



### 2017 New Funds, Memorials Or Additions to Already Established Funds– Continued

**Lakes Region Art Association Award** was established to encourage students who will be pursuing a degree or certificate in the field of Visual Arts or Art Education. The award is open to any student who is a resident of Belknap County in addition to graduates of the Winnisquam, Franklin, Moultonborough and Newfound school districts. The LRAA (formerly the Laconia Art Association) was founded in 1940 by five local artists to provide a supportive and educational forum for local artists, both amateur and professional. Members explore the use of various techniques, mediums and styles. Their intent is to nurture the creation and appreciation of the visual arts in the Lakes Region and promote exposure of artists' works to the public. The Lakes Region Art Association has also been a supporter of the Lorán Percy Memorial Art Award through LRSF for many years.



**Lakes Region Girls Softball League (2017)**-The LRGS League was established in 2011, offering an opportunity for girls from the towns of Canterbury, Belmont and Laconia (and the surrounding towns when applicable) ranging in age from 4 to 18. The success of the league has increased on a yearly basis, seeing positive growth in the amount of teams, players and activities that they offer. The success of the league is based on the hard work of volunteers and the board of directors. As a league they are dedicated to providing the best opportunity for every player that joins the LRGS family with the objective of providing a supervised and competitive softball program for the girls. LRGS promotes the ideals of good sportsmanship, skill development, self-confidence and fun in hopes that its participants grow to be healthy, involved adults. (pictured at left LRGSL Board members with LRSF President Mike Nolan and 1st recipient, Robin Friend)

**Miller C. Lovett Family Fund**-Reverend Dr. Miller C. Lovett (1923-2017) was the beloved patriarch of the Lovett family, Miller had a loving spirit with amazing energy and passion for social justice. For many years, he has been steadfastly contributing to a scholarship fund with the goal of building a significant endowment fund to provide a meaningful annual award. Always an educator, in both his professional and personal life, the wishes of this beloved gentleman and respected minister will be fulfilled with the addition of generous gifts received in his memory. This scholarship fund will honor and perpetuate his loving spirit, community involvement and lifetime of service to others. What a fitting tribute to this amazing gentleman!

**The Mazzaschi Family Fund (2017)**-Michael Mazzaschi, a 1964 graduate of Laconia High School, was very grateful to the Laconia Rotary Club for their \$500 award toward his first year at MIT. Mike commented "Their generosity has stayed with me a long time as a symbol of the way a community shows it cares." Mike's six siblings also received scholarships enabling them to attend college. Their parents, Albert and Priscilla, were staunch believers in the value of a college education. Priscilla was a proud member of the LHS Class of 1940 and its reunion committee, which promoted establishing a scholarship endowment fund through the Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation. When Al and Priscilla passed away, their children requested memorial donations to the Class of '40 scholarship fund in honor of their parents. Through their very generous Qualified Charitable Distribution, Mike Mazzaschi and his wife Martha Bates are perpetuating the Mazzaschi Family's legacy by helping other students fulfill their educational and career goals.

**Kimberly Jean Morin Memorial** -During her brief life, the beautiful dynamic Kimberly (1958-1980) won the hearts of all who knew her. Her giving spirit lives on through this fund, which has grown over the years with offerings in memory of several family members. This year, a significant number of donations were received in memory of her dad, **Donald R. Morin (1934-2017)**. Don was a graduate of the Laconia High School Class of 1952. After high school, he served in the US Navy during the Korean Conflict. Following his service in the Navy, he devoted himself to the family business, JJ Morin, Inc. Wholesale Plumbing and Heating as Treasurer for 43 years until his retirement. He was a special officer of the LPD and later a Laconia Police Commissioner. He was also on the Board of Trustees at the Taylor Home, a member of the Laconia Elks Lodge #876, a devoted member of St. Joseph's Church in Laconia and a director of the Union Cemetery Association. Above all, Don was a loving husband, father and brother. He enjoyed hunting at "camp" with his father and brothers, deep sea fishing with his twin brother, golf, mornings with his coffee group and most of all quality time with his family. It has been the vision of Don and his wife, Joan and their family members, that this scholarship, established by the Altrusa Club in Kim's name, continue to grow. With his passing, friends and relatives have added greatly to the endowment.

**Gail Remes Memorial Award** was established by a college friend in honor of Gail (1946-2017), who passed away in June of this year in Plymouth, Massachusetts. Gail was a teacher, mother and friend. This award will be given to a student pursuing a degree in education. In some way she will still be educating young people as she did in her lifetime.

**Tom Tobey Memorial Fund** was established by two long-time friends. Mr. Tobey (1939-2017), was a well-liked resident of Gilford, graduate of MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) and member of the U.S Marine Corp for eight years. He ran a residential and commercial construction company in Concord for a number of years and then moved into a career in banking. Tom retired from Laconia Savings Bank in 1990 as the Senior Loan officer. After his retirement, Tom embarked on a new career as one of the Lakes Regions' top real estate agents, working at Roche Realty Group. In addition to his business career, Mr. Tobey was involved in the community serving as a past president of the Laconia Rotary, the United Way and the Governor's Island Club. He was also a member of the Winter Harbor Yacht club.

**VFW Post 1670, Laconia** established a new scholarship fund to benefit college-bound students who are veterans or family members of veterans. This is a new award for the VFW, who has had a Nursing award with us since 2004. This VFW post, founded in Laconia in 1929, has a proud history of service and support for the Lakes Region and for its veterans. They have supported many children's sports activities, volunteered at the NH Veteran's Home in Tilton, delivered food baskets to those in need at Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter time and helped many other worthwhile community programs.

**Saralee Wheeler Memorial**-One of the LRSF's first recipients in 1956 was Saralee (1938-2017) a LHS graduate, who was awarded a Kiwanis Club scholarship to further her education at Boston University – Sargent College. After a 21-year career at Stoneham as a physical education instructor, she returned to the Lakes Region and became employed in the Belknap County Registry of Deeds, from which she retired in 2011 after 28 years of service. A staunch advocate for higher education, Ms. Wheeler supported the LHS Class of 1956 scholarship fund over the years. Through a generous bequest from her estate, her desire to further the education goals of local students will be fulfilled.

### 2012 - 5 Years

**Belknap Mill Quilters Guild** was founded in May of 1978 to foster the art of quilting and fiber arts. Their mission is to provide educational opportunities in the quilting arts for their members. Over the years, the Guild has supported many worthwhile charitable organizations in the Lakes Region with donations, items and volunteer hours. With this scholarship, first awarded in 2012, the Guild wishes to promote and encourage higher education opportunities for art majors residing in Belknap County.

**Colby Family Memorial**- This year we remember the fifth anniversary of the loss of **Richard "Dick" Colby (1919-2012)** Dick is remembered as "Mr. Little League" by those who worked with him during his 50 years of service to the youth of the community. The Little League field at Opechee Park is named after him. The family fund began in memory of Priscilla Colby (1920-1996), a lady who won the love and admiration of all she met. Priscilla's skill and dedication to her profession, her community, and her church, also earned their respect. Sadly, the fund grew with the loss of her son, Richard "Rick" Colby (1958-2005), who was described as big-hearted, spreading a sense of joy of love, inspiring those around him, and raising their spirits through trying times.

**James and Nancy Farr Memorial**- It was indeed fitting, with the passing of **Nancy Farr (1945-2012)**, that her name was added to the fund which was originally started to honor James (1943-2004), a highly-respected science teacher, who taught at Gilford High School for 21 years and had recently retired after 35 years of teaching. This year we mark the fifth anniversary of the loss of Nancy Farr. She taught first and second graders for more than 25 years in Gilmanton and was pleased to watch her former students grow to become young men and women, even teaching some of their children.

**Andrew Moynihan Memorial**-Mr. Moynihan (1920-2012) was described as a terrific person, a great teacher, and a wonderful role model. He was dedicated to his profession, not only as an Industrial Arts Teacher at LHS for 20 years but as coordinator of Federal Funds ESEA Title I, Executive Director of the NH Advisory Council for Vocational Technical Education and a member of NEA. He was committed to his state and his community as a volunteer with many worthwhile civic and charitable organizations. What better way to commemorate this remarkable gentleman than to continue his lifelong dedication to education.

## A Message from Lisa Bianco, Retiring Trustee



Nine years has flown by! It has been wonderful to serve as a trustee of the Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation. We've distributed scholarship awards to high school seniors heading off to college, continued to help fund tuition for students throughout their educational journeys, and assisted those courageous adults who choose to go back to college after many years away. All scholarship recipients have unique stories and come from different backgrounds, but they all have one thing in common – they are all truly deserving of their scholarship awards. To our donors: whether your donation is a significant gift or just a “drop in the bucket,” please know how much of an impact your generosity has on the students of our community. We couldn't do this without you! And of course, my utmost appreciation to the LRSF “family.” You are the best!

### 2007—10 Years

**Belmont Conservation Commission Award in Memory of Jeffrey Marden-** Since 2005 the BCC has donated scholarship funds for Belmont High School students demonstrating a sincere interest in the areas of conservation, natural resources, ecology, and/or the environment. This year we remember **Jeff Marden (1965-2007)** who was an exceptional young man, who channeled physical adversity and personal loss by helping others. He also had a passion for the preservation of the community he loved and served.

**Richard V. & Priscilla Breton Award—** Dick Breton had a long history of involvement with LRSF as donor representative on behalf of the Kiwanis Club. Both Mr. & Mrs. Breton were staunch advocates for our local youths over the years. In 2007, to demonstrate their strong belief in continuing education, they made a generous donation to establish this fund to assist students seeking to advance themselves in financial studies.

**Chamberlain Family Memorial-** Since 2007, this award has been administered by LRSF. However, it was in 1976, with the tragic loss of both of their parents, Kenneth & Anna Chamberlain, that the Chamberlain family began donating annual scholarships to Alton students in their honor. The fund has grown tremendously over the years to commemorate numerous other family members, all of whom had a strong commitment to education and community service. The Chamberlain family's heritage dates back to 1770 when pioneer, Jacob, became one of the founding fathers of the town of Alton (formerly known as New Durham Gore). His descendants have channeled their gratitude for this proud legacy by establishing a permanent scholarship fund to benefit Prospect Mountain High School students.

**Edward & Natalie Davis Memorial-** Both Mr. & Mrs. Davis had a steadfast commitment to education and community service. This year marks the 10th anniversary of Natalie's passing. For over forty years, **Natalie (1916-2007)** was a dedicated and talented elementary teacher, reading specialist and administrator. A retired NH Highway Department and Safety Patrol employee, Edward (1918-2008) was also a lifetime member of the Lions Club and had served for many years as Chair of their Scholarship Committee.

**Charles V. Richards IV Memorial-**The children of Charles “Chuck” V. Richards IV established the scholarship in 2015. He was the proud father of twin boys who attended Belmont High School. He was a Vietnam Veteran that humbly served his country and passed away in 2007. Chuck began working at a young age and instilled strong work ethic in his children. In his memory, his children wish to encourage those students that have maintained good academic standing while working through high school to continue their education.

**The William H. and Joan B. Veazey Memorial Award-** 2017 marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the loss of **Bill Veazey (1926-2007)**, a well-respected businessman and former owner of Boullia-Gorrell Lumber Company. In all his endeavors, he was known as a hard worker, dedicated to his family and to his job, in that order. His mission in life was to try and make someone's struggle a little easier. He was a “quiet” giver, never asking for recognition or for anything in return for his favors. It is fitting that his wife Joan's name was added to the fund, not only acknowledging their 56 years of marriage, but also recognizing their mutual dedication to family, friends, community and church.

### 2002— 15 Years

**R. Everett and Gwendolyn I. Cochran Scholarship—** Countless generations of Gilmanton, Gilford, and Laconia students will benefit from the generosity of Mrs. Gwendolyn Cochran, who directed that the earnings from the residue of her estate (including her inheritance from her sister, Mona Glover) be used for annual scholarships to deserving and financially needy students. The Cochrans were a hard-working, thrifty couple. Ms. Glover, had been a Lieutenant, JG with the US Navy Reserve during World War II, stationed in a naval hospital as a registered nurse. The sisters enjoyed many common hobbies and interests and were involved in several community and church organizations.

**Bridget C. Kilfoyle Memorial-**As a first-year teacher at Elm Street School in Laconia, Brigid (**1973-2002**), was considered dedicated and gifted by her colleagues and was adored by her students. In her all-too-brief lifetime, Brigid touched the lives of all who knew her, and won their love and respect. Her gifts were many: intelligence, humor, athleticism, beauty, strength, and an incredible energy. Brigid was hard working and dedicated, in her life and her work, playing sorts or teaching. It is truly fitting that the scholarship will continue to help deserving students to fulfill their goals to be teachers.

**Laconia Eye & Laser Center Award** is a professional association of two Board Certified Ophthalmologists, who together have more than 40 years' experience in eye surgery. In the spirit of giving back to the community they serve, Dr. Douglas Scott and Dr. Andrew Garfinkle have awarded scholarships to local college-bound students, and have contributed to specific memorial funds.

**Robert W. Musgrove Memorial** was established in 2002 by his wife, Martha, numerous professional associates, friends, and family to commemorate this esteemed retired school superintendent, who started his career as an elementary school teacher. He dedicated his life to education, the school system, its teachers, and especially the children. He was responsible for initiating and instituting so many worthwhile new programs and policies within the school system, that space does not allow us to record all of them.

**Kathleen Noyes Ober Memorial** was donated by her parents as a loving tribute to their daughter's hard work, perseverance, and dedication to her profession. Kathy ( **1956-2002**) was well into her thirties, the single parent of a year-old daughter, when she enrolled at the New Hampshire Technical Institute and took the first step to attaining her lifelong goal of becoming an RN. Her four-year effort to juggle motherhood, work, and studies were rewarded when she received her nursing degree and passed the state board exams. She truly loved being an RN and was very dedicated to her patients at the Merrimack County Nursing Home.

**Loran D. Percy Art Memorial** honors and perpetuates the life and deeds of this unassuming, yet renowned, Lakes Region native. Loran Percy (**1931-2002**) was a very special person, who loved people and enjoyed his work – both painting and photography. He gave generously of his time and talent to help others. Through his profession, as photographer, artist, and art instructor, Loran Percy was held in highest regard. Through his personal dedication to his students and his community, he earned an even greater tribute – their love and admiration. (photo at right: Don Frost and Jane Percy representatives for the fund on Donor Day 2017)



**Norman C and Mary M. VanderNoot Scholarship-**Norman VanderNoot (1935-2002) was described by friends and associates as a great teacher and mentor, who looked for people's good points and helped them develop those talents. He was a man of varied talents, and a man of his word. His wit and his wisdom were always evident as was his lifelong commitment to the New England region and his beloved State of New Hampshire. Mary VanderNoot (1939-2016) continued their long commitment to helping others achieve their potential and became Trustee of LRSF.

**Chief Louis "Bud" Wool Memorial Firefighter Award** -The Laconia Professional Firefighters established this scholarship in 2002 in memory of former Laconia Fire Chief Louis "Bud" Wool, to benefit students in the Fire Technology program. Chief Wool was known as a proactive and innovative leader in the fire service. He was the kind of fire chief that everyone wished they had a chance to work with. For the Laconia Professional Fire Fighters, this scholarship is their way of keeping his memory and ideals alive.

#### 1997—20 Years

**Philip Bragg Firefighter Award**—Phil & Claire Bragg created this award in 1997 to honor all firefighters and to benefit fire science students. With no breathing apparatus or fire-retardant clothing, no chemical or hazardous material training and little, if any medical knowledge, fighting a fire was a more difficult job, according to Phil Bragg, who began his career with the Laconia Fire Department in 1962. During his 24 year career, Mr. Bragg became a Firefighter First Class and a certified EMT, trained in all phases of both, but he especially enjoyed the ambulance work. In 1979, he was awarded the Merle Sargent Award for bravery for injuries suffered in the line of duty.

**Kathleen "Kathy" Daigneault Memorial**—Kathy (1947-1997), a graduate of the LHS Class of 1965, was employed at Laconia Savings Bank for twenty-one years and was the Senior Vice President of Marketing. She was vitally involved in many local civic organizations and touched the lives and hearts of a great many people in the Lakes Region through the unselfish giving of her time and talent. Kathy was an upbeat person, stressed the positive aspects of any situation and was a strong proponent of continued education and personal growth.

**Drouin-MacEslin Award**- A native of Laconia, graduate of Laconia High School and Laconia Hospital School of Nursing, Mrs. Dora "Dolly" Drouin-MacEslin (1916-2003) established this fund in 1997 to encourage nursing or health care majors, especially non-traditional students. Dolly always stressed the importance and benefits of education.

**Lakeport Community Association**—Over the years, the Association, which was founded in 1997, has succeeded in furthering its mission to "preserve, yet improve the Lakeport Community." As part of its education program, the members started funding the Lakeport Community Association Scholarship to support a college-bound Lakeport student. These awards are dedicated in memory of deceased members as a tribute to their service to LCA.

**Lakes Region Rotary Club Alida Millham Award** -The Lakes Region Rotary Club was chartered in June of 1989 and became a LRSF donor in 1997. Its members have given generously of their time, energy and resources, working on fund-raising events, which help several worthwhile local organizations. The "ideal of service" is the key phrase in the Object of Rotary. This ideal is an attitude of being a thoughtful and helpful person in all of one's endeavors, which the Lakes Region Rotary Club has exemplified.

**Douglas & Alison Scott Award** - Since 1997, Dr. and Mrs. Scott have been awarding scholarships to local students. They are staunch proponents of continued education and want to show their support of your future educational goals. Each year they congratulate and reward local students for their achievements and contributions to the community while wishing each student success and happiness in their college years.

**Charles (Charlie) M. Smith—Kiwanis Club of Laconia Award**— Charlie Smith (1905-1997) excelled in both academics and sports. While still a student at UNH, he opened Smith's Apple Orchard in Belmont, one of the area's first "pick your own" orchards. He was renowned and respected as an agriculturist and a specialist in soils, grasses and hays. Mr. Smith was also involved in numerous Lakes Region activities and was known as a friend of the city, especially its youth. As a 1982 and 1988 "Kiwanian of the Year," it is fitting that the club and his sons established a scholarship fund in his honor.

**Erwin S. & Mildred Smith Memorial**—Erwin Smith (1909-1997), a legendary coach at Laconia High School, was recognized as a great individual and a great teacher. He taught Spanish for 30 years and was responsible for 10 championship teams in wrestling, cross country, and track and field at the high school and college levels. In 1989 he was inducted into the NH Coaches Hall of Fame. Mildred Smith (1916-2001) was a constant supporter of her husband's teaching and coaching career, and a dedicated volunteer for all sports events and student functions.

**Lawrence J. Smith and Nancy Pashley Smith Award**—Since 1997, Larry & Nancy Smith had personally helped the educational and career goals of promising young journalists and generously donated to the Friends of the Foundation Operating Fund to help LRSF with its administrative costs. They had both been employed at the Laconia Citizen. This year we remember **Mr. Larry Smith** (1924-2007) who was editor until 1991. Larry was described as "a man devoted to his work, undeterred by setbacks, deeply committed to his community and always willing to help when no one was looking". Nancy, (1925-2013) bequeathed a substantial sum to LRSF to perpetuate their support of local students majoring in English, Communications, Writing, Print or Broadcast Journalism.

**Wilbrod "Buck" & Laurette J. Turcotte Memorial** -Their nearly 40-year marriage was never blessed with children, but both of them loved youngsters. **Mr. Turcotte (1909-1997)**, in addition to being active in many civic, church and sports organizations was also involved in the Boy Scout programs in the Lakes Region. When her mother died, Laurette (1972), at the age of 19, became the "little mother" to her sisters, the youngest of which was less than two years old. Upon the passing of Mr. Turcotte this generous scholarship fund started from donations from their estate in 1997.

#### 1992- 25 Years

**Bruce Fitzpatrick Memorial** was established in 1992 by his mother, Ellen, to commemorate her son who died in 1988 and honors his memory by providing scholarships for Winnisquam Regional High School students with a strong commitment to furthering his or her education and knowledge. When his mother Ellen died in May of 2000, further donations were received in her memory.

**Gilford District PTA (1992)** whose mission is "To make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children," shows its support of GHS graduates with this scholarship award. Since 2016, these generous awards have been given to recognize a student in the following categories: STEM, Community Service, and Education.

**Lions Club Endowment Fund**—In 1992, the Laconia-Gilford Lions Club set a precedent in the Lakes Region by making donations to an endowment fund to honor members, and acknowledge personal events or circumstances in the lives of their membership. This is in addition to their annual donations for scholarship awards each year.

**Pepin Family Memorial Award**— In 1992, a tragic accident took the life of a young man who was loved and respected as a teacher and a mentor to his students at the Barnstead Elementary School. **Keith Pepin** (1968-1992) graduated from Belmont High School in 1986 and Plymouth State College in 1990. He was an exceptional young man, who was a father figure to many youngsters. By his example, he showed us the true meaning of patience, kindness, and understanding. This year we also remember the 5th anniversary of the passing of his brother, **Kevin R. Pepin** (1973-2012). The fund also honors the brothers' father, Robert R. Pepin (1945-1995), who had graduated from Hesser Business College in Manchester, worked as an office manager and accountant for James Piscopo Contractors. He was a true gentleman; a devoted husband and loving father. Keith, Kevin and Robert were known as wonderful, happy, considerate men, who wanted to make the world a happier, caring place.

#### 1987—30 years

**Alton & Emily Fairbrother** -Although they had no children of their own, Alton and Emily Fairbrother were interested in young people and enjoyed following sports at Gilford High School and encouraging the neighborhood youngsters participating in these activities. Alton died in 1989 and when Emily Fairbrother Kidder died in March of 2012, the scholarship fund they had established in **1987**, was further increased through a generous bequest from her estate.

**Jeffrey J. Houle Memorial-** A motorcycle accident took the life of this young man in 1987. Jeffrey (1969-1987) was said to have possessed the love and admiration of his peers. Through memorial gifts from family, friends, co-workers of Mr. & Mrs. Houle, Weirs neighbors, and fellow worshippers at Weirs United Methodist Church, this fund continues to grow and help other young people. Additional donations were received when George Houle, Jeffrey's father passed away in November 2013.

**St. James Church of Laconia**—Since 1987, the St. James Church Scholarship has been awarded to encourage educational opportunities for their parishioners. The first scholarships were awarded in memory of John S. McLean, who was an advocate of this cause. Gifts in memory of other parishioners have since augmented the fund. The St. James Scholarship Fund is administered by a caring and dedicated committee of Parishioners.

#### 1982 - 35 Years

**Bank of New Hampshire (formerly Laconia Savings Bank) Award-** Always responsive to the needs of the communities it serves, Bank of New Hampshire, has not only provided scholarship awards since 1982, but also officers and trustees for LRSF. It has been a strong supporter of organizations that work towards the betterment and development of youths. As an employer, they know the importance of post-secondary schooling and the need for local businesses to provide scholarship funding to assist with the cost of college education.

**Chief Eugene Blake Memorial (1982)-**A respected and popular figure in Lakes Region law enforcement circles, Gene Blake was a 19-year veteran of the Laconia Police Department and served as the Chief of Police in Gilford beginning in 1978. He was an example to all, especially to youngsters and teens. This fund is a living tribute to Chief Blake for his service to the Lakes Region and his dedication to law enforcement. This year with the passing of his wife **Esther Blake Mountfort (1933-2017)** additional donations were made to the fund. Esther worked as a rural mail carrier for the U.S. Postal Service in Laconia for 25 years. She retired to Maine with winters in Florida. She enjoyed participating in family reunions, visiting with friends, and sharing her homemade goodies with all. Friends and family always looked forward to her famous caramel corn at Christmas, her decadent brownies and handcrafted root beer. She was a lifetime member of the Evangelical Baptist Church.

**Jonathan Calley Memorial (1965-1982)-**A Laconia High School junior, whose life ended all too soon in a heartbreaking accident, Jon was a former member of the Laconia Little League, Babe Ruth Baseball League, Lakes Region Youth Hockey and The First United Methodist Church. He was mechanically inclined, interested in math, and loved competitive games. Over the years this fund has grown from additional family gifts and offerings in remembrance of Jonathan, as well as offerings in memory of other family members.

**Opechee Garden Club Award-**A group of volunteers dedicated to the beautification and preservation of our environment. Beginning in 1982 they started awarding scholarships, through LRSF, to students majoring in forestry, horticulture, botany, landscaping, or any related field. The scholastic future of these recipients, as well as the appearance of the community, have been greatly improved as a result of the efforts of the Club.

**Raynel Award and the Monty Award** were both established 1982 by an unpretentious gentleman, with the request that the donation remain anonymous (during his lifetime). In 1984 we discovered that these two funds ("Raynel" was his abbreviated name, and "Monty" his wife's nickname) were also the beneficiaries of his life insurance policy. It wasn't until we read his obituary that we learned that Col. Raymond A. Nelson was a twenty-seven year veteran of the U.S. Army, with a distinguished military career. His altruism and genuine interest in promoting higher education for Lakes Region students will be perpetuated through the Raynel Award and Monty Award.

**Elsie B. McCarthy Willey Nursing Fund**—The name of this much loved Laconia nurse will live on in this community through the fund established in 1985 by her husband Floyd Willey. Elsie (1920-1982) was described as a wonderful woman, a true humanitarian, and beyond that she symbolized Florence Nightingale to the core. This year, with the passing of **Mrs. Vivian Brassard**, donations were requested for this fund. Vivian Flanders Brassard, a former head nurse for LRGH considered nursing to not only be her profession but also very much who she was. Donations to this fund which sponsors scholarships for students studying nursing was a perfect tribute to Vivian and Elsie.

#### 1977- 40 Years

**Dr. Nathan Brody Memorial-(1909-1977)-**Dr. Brody will always be remembered as a dedicated physician whose zeal for a cause was contagious and whose personal generosity knew no bounds. Dr. Brody also devoted his time and energies to numerous community projects: youth, religious, police commission, fire department, chamber of commerce, and in particular, programs for the prevention of alcohol and drug abuse.

#### 1972 - 45 Years

**Joyce & Soc Bobotas Memorial-Joyce Bobotas** (1972) served in social, church, and community activities, and always contributed with a vitality and zest for life, and a friendliness that radiated with her ready smile and warm hello. Her husband, Soc Bobotas (1980) was a beloved and well-respected director of athletics at Laconia High School.

**Louise & Joe Killourhy Memorial** was spearheaded by the Leavitt Park Community Club with the passing of Mrs. Killourhy in 1978. A retired nurse, she was best known as Mrs. Santa for her work with the Santa Fund. 2017 marks the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of **Joe Killourhy's (1913-1972)** passing. "Serving others" could best describe the lifestyles of Joe & Louise and the hard-working members of LPCC. This fund serves as a tribute to them and this creed.

#### 1967- 50 Years

**Nathan & Jennie Brindis Memorial (1967)** was donated by Mrs. Jennie Brindis in 1967 and has benefited Laconia High School students of all creeds and races. Their son Eugene founded the Laconia Shoe Company in 1937, which he ran until his retirement in 1981. Upon his death in 2007, a substantial addition was made from his estate to further honor his parents and perpetuate their memory.

**Laconia Lodge of Elks #876** was one of the first groups that supported awards made through LRSF in 1956 and continues to support the educational future of Lakes Region students and family members. The Elks endeavor to invest in their communities through programs that help children grow up healthy and drug free.

**Edmond & Lillian Roucher and Claire Roux Nursing Memorial-**This year we remember Mr. Edmond Roucher who passed in 1967. His children as well as other family members and friends established a nursing scholarship in 1990. Their intent was to help students further their education in the nursing field as a tribute to Mr. & Mrs. Roucher and later in memory of their daughter, Claire Roucher Roux.

## 1957 - 60 Years

**Key Club –John Davie Memorial**—A teen counterpart to the Kiwanis Club, the Key Club was started by the LHS Class of 1949 and has participated in the LRSF program since 1957. In 1991, the Key Club turned over a generous donation from Mr. & Mrs. Davie in memory of their son, John Davie, who had been a Key Club member, star athlete and a star student. These funds were used to establish an endowment fund to perpetuate the Key Club and the memory of John Davie.

Pictured: **Key Club** members Cloe Bertocchi, Alexyah Dethvongsa and Lauren MacDonald at the 2017 LRSF Community Spelling Bee sponsored by the Laconia Kiwanis Club.



**Meet our Staff-New and “Old”** This has been a year of transitions here at the office, the most notable change being additions to our staff.



In July of this year, Ms. Suzanna Derynioski, joined our staff as office assistant and secretary. She has also taken on the role of our marketing person, working on our Facebook page and website. She was instrumental in getting our new website page up and running.

Later in the fall, Karen Switzer joined us, coming on as our new Assistant Director, pairing with Paulette Loughlin, replacing Steve Loughlin, who formerly held this position. Karen and Paulette plan to work as a team this coming year taking on most of the responsibilities of our retiring Executive Director, Joan Cormier. But, fear not, Joan plans on coming in on a regular basis in her capacity as Past-Executive Director and chief advisor to the directors.



Continuing on with us after many years with the Foundation, is our Assistant Treasurer, Ms. April Morgan. April pays our bills, disburses our college invoices and maintains our financial records.

Steve Loughlin joined the Foundation as Assistant Director in 2016. He worked long and hard his first year on obtaining grant funding for our new computer system and was very successful. He also assisted Joan in financial matters and statistics for the Donor Day and the Spelling Bee. For many years Steve has worked as the official photographer for the Spelling Bee and he has decided that he would like to return to his status as a retired gentleman but will continue working with LRSF as our official photographer and assist with publicity.



Last, but not least, our Administrative Assistant, Barbara Cushing Moore, who has served the Foundation since 2002. Barbara, Joan's right hand for many years, had assumed the overwhelming responsibility of Technology Specialist. She has adeptly maintained our complete data base, which is vital for every aspect of the services we provide to donors and recipients. This year she will be stepping back a bit. Barbara has agreed to continue to come in as a consultant, helping us master our Access Database records.

**We honor the following Laconia High School classes that established scholarship funds over the years. We would like to recognize their 2017 benchmark anniversaries.**

**Laconia High School Class of 1952**—This year we had the pleasure of attending the LHS Class of 1952 65th Reunion. It was wonderful to see this energetic group of LHS alumni enjoying each other's company and reminiscing. So many members of this class have been active and vital members of the Lakes Region Community giving back and serving the city they grew up in and love. One of the highlights of the afternoon for LRSF, was their donation to the LHS Class of '52 Endowment fund. THANK YOU Class of 52 for all of your support over the years!



Members of the reunion committee pictured at the left presenting check to Assistant Director Paulette Loughlin: Standing (l to r) Bill Bastraw, Mary Jane Hoey, Wayne Fletcher, Mary Walker & Ginger Ryan; seated (l to r) Dorothy Duffy, Edie Adams, Paulette Loughlin and Carroll Stafford.

### 60th Anniversary-

**LHS Class of 1957-** Congratulations on your 60th anniversary LHS Class of 1957. The Class of '57, at their 50th reunion, encouraged their classmates to contribute toward a scholarship fund, which proved to be a successful endeavor. In 2007, the class was able to raise a significant amount and with these funds established a scholarship endowment, which will perpetuate this enthusiastic group's commitment to their hometown and their high school for generations to come.





## Annalee Thorndike Art Competition

Since 2001, the Annalee Thorndike Art Award Competition has awarded \$36,650 in scholarship monies to students who will be studying art or pursuing an art related field. This is a unique scholarship open to high school seniors in the Lakes Region. This is a merit based scholarship. Applicants are asked to complete an entry form, and no financial information is required. Students must submit 5 pieces of artwork and are judged by a panel of three area artists. Detailed information on this special scholarship is available on our website at [Irscholarship.org](http://Irscholarship.org), under the heading "Applicants."

The 2018 Annalee Competition will be held at the Laconia Library.

Entry forms are due by March 30th and the competition is scheduled for April 6-12.

### [Pictures on from the 2017 Annalee Thorndike Art Competition](#)

Pictured at the left the 2017 Annalee Art Competition entrants: (back-Matthew Sundius, Samuel Swedberg; center-Jessica Hanson; bottom row-Alexa McNamara, Sarah Joseph and Committee Chair-Pam Hayes. Also pictured Chuck and Karen Thorndike.)

Pictured at left Competition winner Jessica Hanson with 2017 judges: (l to r) Elaine Morrison, Jessica Hanson, Roger Gagne and Ann Saunderson



### **Don't be Fooled! Applications are due by April 1st!**

Remember, LRSF applications are now available online via our website at: [Irscholarship.org](http://Irscholarship.org). You can either fill them out on line and email them to us, OR print out a copy and mail them. The final deadline for filing an application is April 1, 2018. You can also get a copy from the guidance offices at area high schools, or by calling 603-527-3533.

*DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE!*

We also have a few unique scholarships that are exceptions to our usual application process. The first is the Annalee Thorndike Art Competition Scholarship. This is available to high school seniors planning on majoring in art related fields. Another exceptional scholarship opportunity is the John F. Mullen Memorial Essay Competition award. The Mullen award requires students who compete to write an essay

that describes an experience that has made a difference in the student's life, with an emphasis on a change in attitude, behavior or ambition which this experience might have caused in them. We also have two special awards available to students going into a construction related field, sponsored by the Lakes Region Board of Builders and Remodelers. This past year the Gilmanon American Legion Stockwell award added their award to our family. This is also an essay competition, open to students from Gilmanon, NH. Please check our website for the specific requirements of these generous awards.



**PUT THIS on YOUR CALENDAR!**

The 2018 Annual Community Spelling Bee tentatively planned for Thursday, October 25th at the Laconia HS Auditorium.

## Our 17th Annual

### FIRST PLACE TEAM:



*The LHS National Honor Society*

*"We Put a Spell on You"*

(Pictured (l to r) LRSF Assistant Directors Karen Switzer and Paulette Loughlin, team members Amber Patten, Isabella Lovering and Dakota Cross, LRSF president.-Mike Nolan, LRSF Executive Director-Joan Cormier.)

*Thanks to the team's Corporate Sponsor*

*Dana S. Beane & Company P.C.*

CHECK OUT OUR NEWLY DESIGNED WEBSITE! Staff member Suzanna Derynioski, has set us up on the net with a modern, new website including interesting news notes, application information, important dates and so much more. We are hoping to be able to keep in touch with everyone so much more frequently with this new site!

Thank you Suzanna. Site: [Irscholarship.org](http://Irscholarship.org)



Also, why not take a look and like us on FACEBOOK! Check us out for timely updates on what's going on at LRSF! Steve and Suzanna have been working hard posting pictures, deadlines and other info on our page. [facebook.com/Irscholarship/](https://facebook.com/Irscholarship/)

One last thought...Be sure to update your information with us so that you can receive the newsletter and other correspondence as a digital copy in the future.

~ WE NOW OFFER ON OUR WEBSITE ~

