



Mt. Baker Scholarship Foundation Newsletter

A Dollars for Scholars Organization, Mount Baker School District

MBSF is a volunteer group of community members committed to encouraging academic achievement by providing scholarships for students in the Mt. Baker School District.

MBSF meets the first Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Mt. Baker School District Administration Office, September through June. Everyone is welcome!

Mt. Baker Alum and Staff Honor Community with Bequests

Future recipients of Mt. Baker Scholarship Foundation scholarships will benefit as a result of a growing number of generous bequests from district alumni and staff. The Foundation has long been a supporter of the Leave a Legacy concept that encourages naming charities as part of estate planning. As the named recipient of portions of an increasing number of estates, the Foundation will take responsibility for making sure these endowments grow to increase support of higher education for students from the Mt. Baker School District in the years to come.

While none of the benefactors have an interest in publicizing their generosity, several have agreed to permit us to write about them as a means of encouraging other community members to follow their lead in considering Mt. Baker Scholarship Foundation as a means of ensuring that part of their legacy goes to support the educational goals of children from this community.

Burpees Value Long-term Relationships

Bruce and Linda Burpee, both Washington natives, who grew up in Des Moines and Prosser respectively, have lived and worked in the Mt. Baker

district for nearly 30 years. During that time they have seen many changes including some tremendous growth in the population. Bruce recalls that Acme Elementary had 112 students in 1973, but now tops 300! "But," Bruce notes, "in spite of all the changes, the one thing that has stayed the same is the community support of schools and children. I have enjoyed a very good relationship with the students and families of the district and they have been wonderful to work with. Linda and I would like to leave a legacy for the community as a thank you and to give something back to the community." When asked what their hopes are for the children of the district as they pursue higher education, the Burpees responded, "Our hope is that they will be successful members of the community who will contribute to its viability in a variety of ways."

Lifelong County Residents Appreciate Value of Higher Education

Norma and Roland Adkinson both grew up in Whatcom County, Norma in Ferndale and Roland in Maple Falls. Both have a keen awareness of how much variation there can be in

Community bequests

opportunities available to children due to the district tax base and the number of miles they live from the school and town. Norma, a longtime staffer at Maple Falls and now Kendall Elementary, says she feels fortunate to have come from a hard-working family that supported her college education. She and Roland have agreed that it is an important priority for them to give students in this area an opportunity for a higher level of education.

Norma says, "Unlike Ferndale where I grew up, Mt. Baker School District covers a very large geographic area that has few large industries to draw from for a tax base. This alone makes it a challenge to keep up with the growth in this area. We foster many lower income families and these children need the support that hopefully we and others can give them to get a better education and subsequently higher paying jobs that will give them a chance for a better future." Another big difference between Ferndale and Mt. Baker that Norma notes is the proximity to more cultural and educational events that give students more exposure and opportunities for enrichment. "It is very difficult, living 27+ miles from Bellingham and the university, to attend events very often. Some children living in this area have never been as far away as Seattle! Those are the ones that Roland and I would like to see get the opportunity for a better life. There are many wonderful children in our community. Since we do not have children of our own, we would like to give others the opportunity to further their education."



Alum Reconnects with Alma Mater

Thorleif Mohn graduated from Mt. Baker High School in 1940. While he has not lived in the area for many years he has not forgotten his alma mater. Shortly after receiving a copy of the Scholarship Foundation newsletter and reading about the successes of our scholarship recipients, he contacted the foundation to discuss naming the group as a recipient of a portion of his estate.

Thor, now a Whidbey Island resident, was in Kodiak, Alaska working construction at the Navy base there when Pearl Harbor was attacked. He enlisted in the Army and trained as a radio operator, but was unable to serve due to a serious illness. Following he earned a B.A. in Education at Western Washington College and worked for the US government for two years in Seattle before owning and running a fishing resort for nine years. His commitment to education began with nine years of teaching math in the Edmonds School District, followed by earning his Masters of Education in Education Psychology at the Univer-

sity of Washington. He subsequently spent 10 years as a counselor at Woodway High School in Edmonds before retirement to Whidbey Island where he returned to fishing, crabbing, and enjoying life on the edge of Puget Sound.

The community members of the Mt. Baker Scholarship Foundation feel privileged to be asked to assist in passing on the fruits of the labor from these and other benefactors in the form of scholarships to deserving Mt. Baker High School graduates of the future. If you are interested in making a donation to the Foundation now, or as a part of your estate planning, please contact any MBSF Board Member by mail or phone using the contact information on the last page of this newsletter.



Lori Maricle - Part of the Crew at WSU

Lori, class of 2001 and recipient of a MBSF Endowed Scholarship, is now in her sophomore year at WSU. In addition to a full academic load, Lori

Reports from our graduates...

is a Division 1 athlete as a member of the Women's Novice Crew team. As part of training during her freshman year the team traveled to Lake Natoma, CA to train with the Sacramento State team for 10 days - it was an incredible week full of learning and physical challenges! Lori reports that the demands of her classes plus her rowing take up the majority of her time, making it difficult to work part-time. Her scholarship has helped take off some of the pressure of expenses for books and tuition. In her own words, "It is encouraging to know that I have the support of the Mt. Baker community as I continue to learn and grow. Thank you again for helping me with the opportunity to explore my horizons and discover the endless possibilities available to me for the future."

Lori is the daughter of Richard and Janet Maricle.



Gabe Lucy, Going Global in Austria

Gabe (Class of 2001), a Global Business major at the University of Portland, is spending his sophomore year in Salzburg, Austria, the longest

running year abroad program at UP. To add to his travel this year he is applying for the UP London business program, a six credit class running for five weeks in the spring.

Gabe says that his experiences at MBHS helped him to value teacher-student relationships. He chose UP because it is a small institution that has a good teacher-student ratio. He remembers one of his freshman classes where his professor knew the name of every student after the first class. Gabe still keeps in touch with teachers at MBHS.

What Gabe most enjoys about UP are the many opportunities he has. "Considering that I'm writing this letter from Salzburg, Austria basically speaks for itself!" His advice: "Enjoy it and make use of your opportunities. Don't take life too seriously!"

Gabe is the son of Tim and Suzanne Lucy.



Tyler Andrews Thanks MBHS Teachers

Currently a sophomore at the University of Washington, Tyler Andrews is completing his general requirements. In April, he will apply for admission

into the Construction Management program. Each year there are more than 100 applicants, but only 40 are accepted. If accepted, Tyler will spend his junior and senior years in CM classes and graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree.

Tyler's college experience so far has given him many opportunities for activities both at school and in the city of Seattle. He states that there is a different pace of life and that he doesn't care for city traffic. He cites the diversity of people as one aspect of college he enjoys.

Tyler credits MBHS teacher Mr. Underwood, and the Building Construction class; as well as his family background in construction, as influences in his choice of major. He was also influenced by Mr. Lepper's expectation for students to excel and meet goals, to have a strong work ethic, and self discipline. He appreciated the time devoted by Mrs. Pitts to offer her guidance and help with writing and looking at college options. Tyler's advice to MBHS students is to "take advantage of all that high school has to offer." He also recommends taking a balanced class schedule as a college freshman in order to be able to enjoy the social aspects of college too.

Tyler is the son of Leonard and Pam Andrews.

INTERVIEWERS NEEDED

MBSF is looking for a few volunteers to interview scholarship recipients for profiles like the ones you see here. Please contact June Thompson at 599-2492 (evenings) if you can help.

Donation and Interest Form for Mt. Baker Scholarship Foundation

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Yes I am interested in helping Mt. Baker Scholarship Foundation raise scholarship funds for Mt. Baker Students.

I am enclosing a tax-deductible donation for Mt. Baker Scholarship Foundation

\$10 \$20 \$50 \$100 (*donor entitled to a commemorative tile on Wall of Honor*)

Other _____

Can we use your name in promotion efforts for the Foundation? Yes No Check with me first

I am interested in discussing setting up a Named or Endowed scholarship through Mt. Baker Scholarship Foundation. Please contact me. A convenient time to reach me at home is _____.

Please contact me with more information about attending monthly meetings of the Foundation.

Please complete and mail this form to: Mt. Baker Scholarship Foundation, P.O. Box 875, Deming, WA 98224

Mt. Baker Scholarship Foundation Board Members Include:

Bruce Burpee, *President*; Theresa Sygitowicz, *Vice President*; Peggy Fowle, *Treasurer*; Neal Bittner, *Fundraising Chair*; Georgina Head, *Alumni Chair*; Rachel Osborn, *Secretary*; Daryl Smiley, *Awards Chair*; June Thompson, *Newsletter Chair*; Gail Kuromiya, *Newsletter Design and Layout*.