



# First Annual Newsletter

by Susan Fortin, Committee Chair

## Welcome

We are excited to launch our first White Pass Scholarship Fund newsletter. Our goal with this publication is to inform and engage with you—the valued donors who make our work possible! This newsletter gives you updates on our finances and our application and selection process. As we recently wrapped up our 5th Scholarship Dinner Auction we thought we'd share those highlights too!

## Measuring Our Mission

Our mission, as always, is to continue to raise funds and help youth graduating in the White Pass School District to achieve their educational goals. The dream of being an underwater welder was fulfilled by a member of the class of 2014. A 2015 grad is studying Paleontology at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and is working on uncovering dinosaur bones in Denali National Park. The class of 2017 is reporting in with their freshman success from Centralia College East to WSU and many points in between. From community colleges, universities, vocational schools, certification programs and trade schools, we support students as they seek the post-secondary options that best meet their goals.

## Structure and Goals

We are an active, volunteer group committed to serving our graduates as they move forward in their education. Our bylaws require committee membership from the three communities of Glenoma, Packwood and Randle and we wouldn't have it any other way—we are a combined community making a difference. Through the White Pass Scholarship Fund alumni, business partners, community members and friends have been investing in our local youth for over 50 years.

## How You Can Help

If you are local, please consider joining our committee. If you are an alumnus who received a White Pass Scholarship, please share your story. Success breeds success and the more our current students hear of stories of the WP educational legacy, the more motivated they become for their own future. Finally, and of critical importance is your continued support through annual giving. Your donations make our work possible. Please follow us on Facebook, visit our website or contact me at 360-497-2068 for more information.



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# Scholarship Selection Process

by Mary Prophit

## Developing Candidates

Each year we introduce the senior class to our application process, explaining each section in detail and making the deadline clear. We speak to students in all grades throughout the school year about preparing for their future so they are ready as seniors to apply. Our goal is to see better-prepared candidates with a larger percentage of our candidates finishing their programs.

## Selecting Candidates

Along with engaging the students, we are continually fine-tuning our application and scoring rubric. The 4-page application focuses on the following categories:

- 1) Grades & academic standing
- 2) Commitment to educational goals
- 3) Community service
- 4) Financial need and special circumstances
- 5) School, work and community involvement
- 6) Presentation of self (through a personal essay and interview)



Group of 2015 scholarship recipients

## Awarding Scholarships

Students are awarded general fund scholarships based upon the aforementioned scoring process and, if applicable, other criteria for donor and memorial scholarships.

# Auction Update

by Ricky Emerson

## Through the Years

It is very exciting. We started out in 2014 with only 120 attendees and generated \$10,444. By 2017, we had increased to 150 attendees, making \$20,630 through the auction event.

Over the first four years, we generated more than \$60,500 through these annual auctions.

We are currently wrapping up our 5th annual dinner/auction; it keeps getting better with more donations, more attendees and more money for the kids.

## 2018 Auction

Our committee members actively secure items for the annual auction, finding people and businesses throughout the community are very supportive. Their donations of products, goods, services,

gift cards and experiences supply the event with over 300 items. Attendees to the auction experience a robust event with the Silent Auction, Raffle Items, 50/50 Raffle and Dessert Auction. As part of the night's festivities, attendees enjoy a delicious catered dinner served by White Pass students. The dinner/auction event culminates with an energetic Live Auction.

Unable to attend the dinner/auction this year? No problem. Mark your calendar for next year's fundraising event on Saturday, March 9, 2019.

[Get your tickets or donate](#)  
You can help.



# White Pass Scholarship Fund

*Helping students achieve their  
educational goals*

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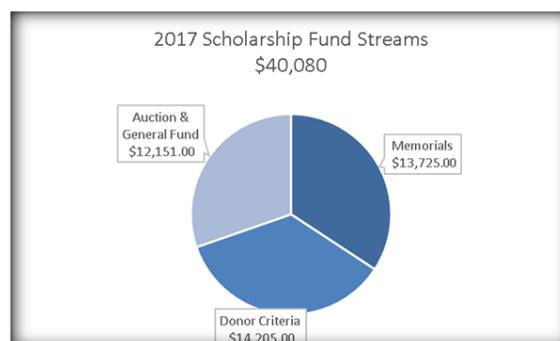
## Funding Outlook

by Sherry Brown

The White Pass Scholarship Fund received \$42,161 in direct public support in 2017 and \$26,125 in Special Events Income from the auction and raffle ticket sales. Our expenses were \$4,324 with \$3,784 as auction expenses, predominantly food costs. Other expenses were for postage, printing, copying, and state gambling and charities renewal fees. In 2017 we paid out \$32,658 in scholarships to 2015 and 2016 scholarship awardees.

The WP Scholarship Committee manages two CDs and two mutual funds for continuing scholarships. These accounts earned \$325 in dividends and interest this past year.

With the huge success we have had in raising scholarship funds at our annual auction, we found ourselves in a great position to start a self-generating scholarship account. Therefore, in October we invested \$25,000



with Financial Securities. This account will help us in many ways:

- Creates a method for donors to start endowment accounts the WP Scholarship Fund can manage for other continuing scholarships.
- Allows the WP Scholarship Committee an avenue to level out high and low donor years as well as high and low scholarship application years.
- Positions scholarship monies to earn more than nominal interest and become self-generating.
- Allows the WP Scholarship Committee to consider ways to expand, for instance, awarding multiple year scholarships.

The White Pass Scholarship Committee also participates in the I-5 Toyota charities raffle and earned \$1,610 in 2017. The Committee voted to reserve these funds for "Fresh Start" scholarship, for those in our community starting school at Centralia College East who did not receive a scholarship immediately after graduation.

Thanks to all of your support, our outlook is good.