



2021 Newsletter

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Helping students achieve their educational goals

Community, Commitment and COVID – what a year it was!

by Susan Fortin, Committee Chair

WOW! Was it only a year ago?

We published the last edition of this annual newsletter at the end of February 2020. We were just weeks away from our seventh annual dinner/auction and excitement was high. As the days unfolded, we all learned a great deal about quick pivots, new plans and leading life in ways we never dreamed! With incredible support from the community and the amazing efforts of our Scholarship Committee we are still going strong as we continue to work to support our graduates as they pursue their educational goals. What did the year look like?

Auction 2020

In March, the statewide closure of schools coincided with our Dinner Auction. In that moment we were reaffirmed about the generosity of our supporters! All ticket holders, when offered a refund, donated the cost of their tickets. Some sent checks saying, "Oh, I would have spent money at the auction anyway so here's a donation."

Committee members **Quedessa King, Nancy Nebeker and Bonnie Sniezak** researched and organized an online format which allowed us to auction the goods and services from our generous donors. Over the course of two-weekends in May and June we made \$18,000!

Zooming with the Class of 2020

In May, Zoom technology had become a standard part of the lives of students as well as our committee members. **Mary Prophit** led the interview process with each candidate Zooming in with members of the scoring committee. The Class of 2020 was considerably smaller than last year's with seven students applying and qualifying for scholarship funds. We are excited to announce that \$36,904 has been committed to these graduates!

Where we are now

Committee member **Ann Lindh** serves as our school liaison, currently working with the Class of 2021 on the application process. With a hybrid learning model,



We've got this! Committee members continue to meet monthly via Zoom. Consider joining our group!


students are back in the building two days per week so she has the chance to actually cross paths with these seniors! Applications are due on March 23 and our interviews and selection process will follow. We are currently working on our online auction slated for May 14-16. 2021 Auction details can be found on page 2.

Many Thanks!

Thanks to the 11 business sponsors who made this community mailing possible. We are proud to share our news, goals and accomplishments with **all residents** of the White Pass School District! We hope that through sharing our work we can further connect the community with our commitment to youth!

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KASEY COLEMAN
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Scholarship Recipient Spotlight

by Kasey Coleman, White Pass Class of 2019 Scholarship Recipient

When I started Neumont College of Computer Science in 2019, I thought I was fully prepared for what was yet to come. But when COVID hit Utah and we were all forced to go virtual and into quarantine I learned quickly that I was wrong. Without the White Pass Scholarship I would be in a very different place. The scholarship had helped me have a home workspace that allowed me to maintain my 4.0 GPA. I feel that I was less overwhelmed about being in a home workspace and not in a classroom environment like I had my first year. I am certain things would have been so different without this scholarship. The scholarship allowed me to move to Utah and pursue a bachelor's degree in software engineering. I can never thank the community enough for the help that I have received through the White Pass Scholarship Fund.

2021 Online Auction -- May 14-16!

Auction – Something for everyone!

We are gearing up for our 2021 Auction! This year, as we did in 2020, we will use a Facebook Online Auction format. Here's our timeline....

Securing Donations: From now through the end of April we are seeking donations of goods and services from businesses and individuals. The possibilities for donations are endless. Consider donating hand-crafted treasures, firewood, excursions, adventures or gift certificates. To donate or to brainstorm possibilities, please email Bonnie (bonniesniezak@gmail.com), Quedessa (quedessa@centurytel.net), or call Nancy at 360-497-3791 ext 4002.

Auction Promotion: Begin checking our Facebook page or Instagram in mid-April. Auction items will be posted as we receive them with donors' names acknowledged. Items will continue to populate our online-auction FB page so you will have plenty of time to review the opportunities!

Online Auction: Let the bidding begin! The auction will open at 5:00 pm on Friday May 14 and will close with the winning bids at 5:00 pm on Sunday May 16. Winners will be notified on the 16th and arrangements for pick-up will follow.

Please support this annual event to help fund scholarships for our graduates! Be sure to like and share our Facebook page and follow us on Instagram. Being online we encourage participants from everywhere!

We miss the M & M's!

Consider Volunteering

Our committee is made up of community volunteers committed to the success of White Pass graduates. We meet the first Monday of the month from 5:00-6:30. In normal times our meetings take place at the school. We work, laugh and always share Peanut M & M's! Since March 2020 we've been meeting via Zoom. We still work and laugh, but we are eager to safely return to face-to-face meetings with our M & M's. If you haven't been involved in giving out money to help youth meet their goals, you don't know what you're missing! Consider joining our team. To learn more contact Susan Fortin at 360-791-2768 or jump on our FB page to share your interest.



Help us Connect!

As we approach 60 years of scholarship giving to local graduates, we are continuing our search for former White Pass Scholarship recipients. We'd like to share their stories and learn what are they up to now. Help us connect through social media!

www.whitepassscholarship.org
facebook.com/whitepassscholarshipfund/

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Financial News – It’s all about Celebrations!

by Sherry Brown, Treasurer

The greatest thing about the White Pass Scholarship Fund is it is all about *celebrations*! First, we get to *celebrate* how such a relatively small community can give so much. Our local businesses, alumni from around the country, local families and friends honoring someone, and national corporations donate to support our mission of supporting our youth and their educational goals. In 2020 that came to over \$24,000. Then we get to *celebrate* our high school seniors during the application and interview process. This year we had 7 qualified applicants. While we’re *celebrating* our new applicants, we get to *celebrate* the past graduates as they send us their transcript to collect their money. This year we paid out \$42,900 to 20 students. What an amazing future these young adults have in front of them. During all these *celebrations* we also get to see the generosity of the community as we put together the auction, whether that is in person or virtual. The volunteers, donors, vendors, participants, and students all come together to make a successful event. Even in a virtual format, our 2020 auction grossed \$18,000! This all culminates in the *celebration* where we actually award the scholarships. This year seven eligible students were awarded \$36,900, plus two multi-year scholarships of \$2,500 per year! Finally, the committee takes a moment to just *celebrate* ourselves and what we’ve been able to accomplish since without the committee members orchestrating this wonderful fund, none of it would happen. This year the committee administered accounts totaling more than \$230,000. ***So, how do these celebrations apply to financial news you might ask?***

White Pass Scholarship Fund Custom Summary Report January through December 2020	
	Jan - Dec 20
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
43400 - Direct Public Support	24,489.50
45000 - Investments	
45020 - Dividend, Interest (Securities)	944.35
45030 - Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	1,517.06
Total 45000 - Investments	2,461.41
49000 - Special Events Income	
49010 - Special Events Contributions	300.00
49020 - Special Events Sales (Nongift)	
49021 - Advertising Sales	250.00
49020 - Special Events Sales (Nongift) - Other	15,121.49
Total 49020 - Special Events Sales (Nongift)	15,371.49
49025 - Auction Ticket Sales	2,547.09
Total 49000 - Special Events Income	18,218.58
Total Income	45,169.49
Gross Profit	
	45,169.49
Expense	
65000 - Operations	
65020 - Postage, Mailing Service	56.00
65025 - Fees	451.70
65050 - Auction Expense	962.12
65000 - Operations - Other	1,436.59
Total 65000 - Operations	2,926.41
65200 - Scholarships Awarded	42,942.00
Total Expense	45,868.41
Net Ordinary Income	-698.92
Net Income	-698.92

Well, it is all driven by money. First, we try our best to acknowledge our donors with a thank you note and the recent addition of this newsletter. We also facilitate many of our donors with their own goals for giving. For instance, we manage scholarships for local businesses focused on trade schools, Boeing employees focused on 4-year universities, timber companies focused on agricultural schools, memorials focused on students going into education. We do our best to match our specific donors to the best student for their scholarship. We administer over 50 separate scholarships for our specified donors, that’s a lot of administrative work to keep up. And since success breeds success, we’ve been able to entice several donors to support multi-year scholarships and have awarded 6 of these so far starting in 2018.

Currently we are tackling a project to document the history of the committee which can lead to more contact with scholarship alumni. In the last decade we’ve awarded \$403,000 to 146 White Pass graduates. In the last five years we’ve had donors support of \$255,000 and paid out \$219,000 in scholarships to 90 students and earned \$128,800 in the auction and raffle sales. In those same five years we’ve more than doubled our annual income from mid \$40,000 per year to \$103,000 in 2019 as we worked to build our Legacy Fund!

2020 has been a hard year for all of us! Thankfully, our prior planning, hard work and continued donor support allowed us to weather the storm. We were able to work with donors that might have been hit harder than others and use savings to cover so our students still have the opportunities they richly deserve. We’re optimistic about the future thanks to the continued support of community, alumni and donors willing to invest in our youth. **We’re confident the celebrations will continue!**

Eric J. Sniezak, PE
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