

# The Scholarship FOUNDATION OF ST. JOSEPH COUNTY, INC.

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## Law School Student Urges Audience to Embrace Challenges

Lauren Groth, a Kiel Scholar with the Scholarship Foundation from 2001 to 2005 was the featured speaker at the 2010 Holiday Luncheon sponsored by the Foundation.

One hundred thirty-five people, 75 of them awardee students, heard Lauren, now in her final year at the University of California, Berkeley law school, urge her student listeners to "embrace challenges" by "doing something you totally don't want to do." This was a part of her theme of having an adventure and exploring new things.

Groth related her experiences while attending a National Outdoor Leadership entrepreneurial program on the Baja Peninsula for 72 days. She did this because she was "down" during the second semester of her sophomore year in college.

As an example of her doing something she didn't want to do, Lauren humorously told of learning to drive a stick-shift car. When she finally mastered the feat, she considered it then and still does "the biggest accomplishment of her life."

Groth graduated from John Adams in 2001 and from Northwestern University in 2005. She earned a Masters in Economic Development in Durban, South Africa, and will finish this spring at Berkeley.

In closing, Lauren praised the Scholarship Foundation's concept of mentoring and emotionally thanked her mentor, John Yarger, for all his help. She



*Holiday Luncheon speaker Lauren Groth poses with her Foundation mentor John Yarger and luncheon chairman Wini Farquhar.*

encouraged the students to develop a close relationship with their sponsors.

The annual luncheon was chaired for the Foundation by Director Winifred Farquhar. Assisting her were directors Bruce Bondurant, Anne Hillman, Barb May and Jeanette Moeller.

## Tax Cuts Extension Could Help Foundation, Others

On December 17, 2010, President Barack Obama signed the "Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010," temporarily extending many of the 2001 tax cuts that were set to expire on December 31, 2010. Charitable donors over the age of 70.5 taking Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) from IRAs were given a particularly useful strategy to consider. Those IRA holders can elect to gift a distribution from their IRA directly to a qualifying charity and exclude the distribution from their taxable income in 2011. Although the donation cannot also be taken as an itemized charitable deduction, a donor who would normally take the standard deduction (doesn't itemize) may save the federal income tax on the entire gift (up to a \$100,000 gift limit).

This recent bill only allows the break through 2011, and it would be a pure guess as to the chances of it being repeated or extended in future years. Some benefactors over age 70.5 may want to consider prepaying future pledges or

gifts in 2011 to take advantage of this tax treatment while it is available.

Other more familiar tax-advantaged giving strategies still remain available. Appreciated assets held for more than 12 months can be donated to a qualifying charity, and the donor can avoid capital gains tax and take a deduction for the current market value of the gift (if they itemize deductions). This becomes very attractive for assets that have appreciated significantly.

These comments are not intended to be a thorough analysis of any gifting/tax strategy. In fact, there are many more alternatives, such as charitable remainder trusts and other vehicles. In examining any of these possibilities, a discussion with your tax advisor and financial advisor will be important to help determine what is most appropriate for your objectives. Please call the Foundation office if you would like to discuss a gift in more detail.

# President's Perspective . . . . . Joe Garrett

As I shoveled out my driveway this weekend from an all-time record snowfall for South Bend, around 38" over three days, I thought back to "The Blizzard of '78." (That is the kind of statement that my kids cite to claim I have attained "old geezer" status, but I am used to it.) The 1978 blizzard was much worse because of high winds and drifting. Even so, the recent storm dumped more total inches of snow on the area than that previous record. That happens sometimes in northern Indiana!



I looked back to our Scholarship Foundation's results for 1978 and found that we granted \$29,150 in total awards to 64 students. By comparison, this year we awarded \$222,500 to 101 students! Not quite a record for the Foundation, but very close.

This increase has been the result of many contributing factors: generous donors, a dedicated Board, hard-working officers, Cindy Crawford's work as our assistant, and other factors. Certainly the most prominent gift was the bequest of approximately \$1,800,000 from the estate of Bertha Kiel in 1998. That remarkable addition to our endowment allowed us to step up our giving to new levels, but still leaves us turning many qualified applicants away. Our challenge clearly rests in making our mission heard by more prospective supporters, both large and small. I believe our Board and benefactors can make similar strides in growth in years to come.

Reviewing notable events from this fall, it saddened all of us to learn of Marie Goodhew's passing in September. She was a past president and tireless worker for the Foundation over the years. I would like to again offer our condolences to her family and thank them greatly for naming the Foundation as recipient of memorial contributions.

The College Fair, coincidentally first sponsored by the Scholarship Foundation in 1978, and held this year at the Century Center on October 7, was well attended again by both students and representatives from more than

80 institutions. As one of our big projects every year, it provides students and their parents a chance to check out many prospective schools and also hear a financial aid seminar presented by Mary Nucciarone, Associate Director of Financial Aid at Notre Dame and our Foundation's immediate past president. Many thanks to Mary and to Doug Marsh, chairman of the College Fair and his committee.

The Holiday Luncheon, a tradition first started in 1961, and held on December 28<sup>th</sup> this year at the Windsor Park Conference Center in Mishawaka, was a success as usual. Lauren Groth, a previous recipient, gave an inspiring address on seeking opportunity and adventure. The event always fills me with a sense of optimism and confidence for the future, given the concentration of talent, intelligence, and energy our recipients fill the room with. Talking to the students at my table or hearing the plans our recipients share as they take their turns at the microphone, I'm always impressed with the ambition and initiative I hear. Many thanks to Wini Farquhar and her committee.

I will close with a sincere Thank You to all of our friends, benefactors, board members and students, and best wishes for everyone's happy, healthy, and prosperous 2011!

## Former Foundation President Dies

Marie Goodhew, president of the Scholarship Foundation from 1993-95, died September 4, 2010. She was 86 years old. She had been an active member of the Board from 1982 until she retired in 2000 to care for her husband, Howard, who died in December 2009.

Prior to her presidency, Marie was assistant secretary, 1984-85; secretary, 1985-86; on the Nominating Committee, also 1985-86 and Awards, 1991-93. During her term on the Board, she helped redesign a Foundation brochure, was on the committee for the 30-year celebration in 1988-89 and headed up the Holiday Luncheon in 1988.



The highlight of her tenure as president was probably that the Board changed the way of investing their funds from all bonds to a mixed portfolio. This led to the

current method of determining the amount of money available for scholarship awards based on a three year revolving average.

Marie was particularly avid in pursuing the relationships between Board members and the students assigned to them. The minutes of November 1, 1993, read, "It is Marie's hope that as a group we will recognize what a special service we have to share and what a unique organization we have to preserve."

The late Dr. Jim Wilson, also a former president, praised "the gracious lady for doing a wonderful job" and especially for "taking on a second year."

The Goodhew family requested that contributions in her memory be made to the Scholarship Foundation.

### The Intelligence Investment

**The Scholarship Foundation would be pleased if you could help fund our scholarship gifts.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Check Enclosed

I would like more information

**Mail to: The Scholarship Foundation  
3515 North Main Street, Suite C  
Mishawaka, IN 46545**

# Foundation's Annual College Fair Largest in Northern Indiana

The 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual College Fair, hosted by the Scholarship Foundation of St. Joseph County, drew representatives from over 80 colleges and universities and nearly 1,000 local students and parents in early October. It continues to be the largest such event in the Northern Indiana region.

The Fair was held, once again, at South Bend's Century Center set against the beautiful backdrop of the St. Joseph River and the East Bank. For two hours, local students and their parents walked through the Great Hall learning about a variety of higher education opportunities available to them. College exhibitors were particularly pleased with the setting as well as the turnout from local schools.

This year's College Fair once again featured the highly informative financial aid seminar presented by Mary Nucciarone, the Scholarship Foundation's Board immediate



The Scholarship Foundation's table offers information on its scholarship grants and the location of college tables.

## 'Foundation's Generosity, Guidance Helped Student

*(Following is a letter Jim Considine received this year from a former scholarship recipient.)*

I just wanted to send you a quick note to let you know how much I've appreciated the generosity of the Scholarship Foundation and your mentorship. I thoroughly enjoyed being involved with the Foundation and hope to make you all proud.

I've received the Orr fellowship and will be working with an entrepreneurial company through this fellowship. (I decided to postpone med school.)

I am so excited about my bright future and know that my Miami (University) education that brought me to this point was made possible by the Foundation.

Thank you for your time and guidance.

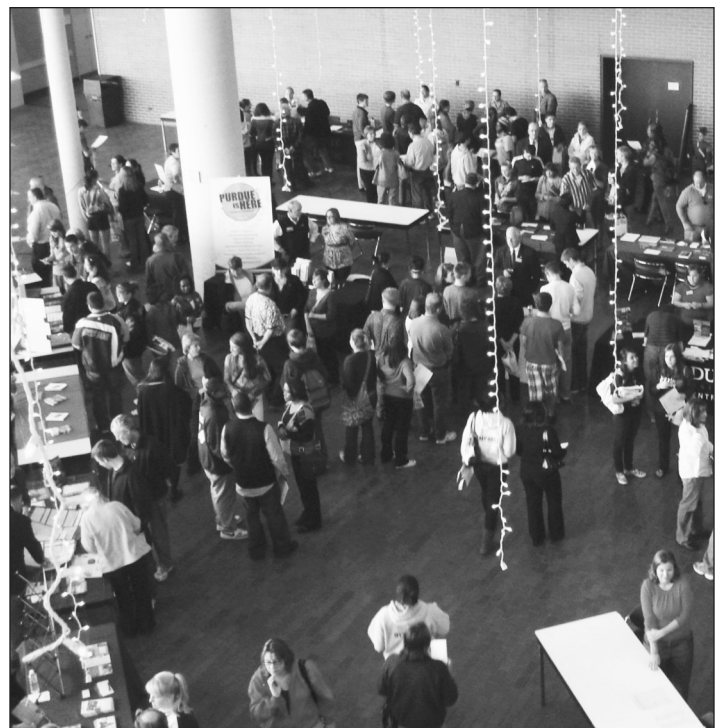
Maggie Voelker

## Revised Web Page Expected To be Ready This Spring

Tim Batalis, vice-president communications and chair of the Publicity Committee of the Scholarship Foundation, has developed a possible update to the Foundation's web site. The new version is expected to be up and running in the spring of 2011. This project has been in the works for a couple years.

New areas include a donors category (detailed descriptions of various gifting options and contact information), financial advisors (necessary information and contacts to trust officers, estate planners, accountants, attorneys and other advisors), calendar (important Foundation activities and deadlines) and e-mail sign-up (ability to inexpensively target, establish, and maintain communications).

An additional feature being envisioned is to include video clips of current students and graduates which might include the speeches given by Foundation alumni at the annual Holiday Luncheon.



**Return Service Requested**

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## Roush Soars to New Heights: First Jump, First Plane Ride

Kenneth Roush a three semester awardee of the Scholarship Foundation, had an exciting Friday the thirteenth last August! Roush took a first-time sky jump. Not only was it a first sky diving experience, but it was also his first-ever airplane flight!

"The skydiving was an amazing experience for me," says Kenneth. "The entire jump was a constant thrill that left me light headed afterward, but if I had to choose a moment that left the most impact and was the most exciting was hanging over the edge of the plane getting ready to jump. Though we were standing there only a moment, every instant felt like a lifetime. I probably won't make this a habit but I really would like to jump again."

Roush is a sophomore at Purdue and an aeronautical and astronomical major and with a minor in astronomy.



## What about Foundation's Beginning? Ask History Committee

Who were the founding members of the Scholarship Foundation of St. Joseph County? The History Committee has filed away such information along with minutes, reports, photos and publicity saved since the organization was incorporated in 1958.

Former Director, Mary Renshaw was the first chairman of the committee, followed by Janet B. Hall who reported in May that all of the boxes of material the group encountered when it was formed have been organized, filed and, in case of duplicates, discarded and shred. Pictures of various

events are framed and hang in the office. Scrapbooks with mementoes of the Holiday Luncheon and College Fair as well as clipping binders are located in the office entrance for anyone to see.

In keeping with the Committee's responsibilities to "gather, sort and preserve historical documents pertaining to the Foundation," committee members Keith Fulmer, Ann Korb and chairman Sue Cierzniak are sorting the wealth of material Dagny Diamond contributed to the organization last fall.