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DeCamp Financial Center

14 Country Club Road

Gilford NH 03249

*Our benefactors since 1999*

The 2024-2025 Scholarship Season has begun and is going strong!

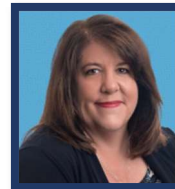
The LRSF Scholarship Application and Application Checklist are available on our website under the "Applicants" tab! [www.lrscholarship.org](http://www.lrscholarship.org)



## 2024 Anniversaries Newsletter

January

### A Message from our President



I have the honor of serving the Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation as President for this coming year. Being a former recipient of the Foundation decades ago, I am thrilled I can give back all these years later. My hope is to ensure that we continue to support the local Lakes Region communities by providing ample scholarships to deserving students as they strive to reach their educational goals. During my 8 years as Board Member, I've read the many stories of hopes and dreams of local students and the hurdles and challenges they face financially as well as personally. Today's world is a challenging one for young people and it has grown exponentially.

Through our wonderful donors, LRSF is able to provide support to students in their reach to pursue their education and help ease that financial burden they face. Our dedicated board of volunteers, partnering with the staff of LRSF, keep our mission to provide opportunities for higher education alive and well. You'll see us locally at events such as our annual Benefit Night at Fratello's, driving around judging our Annual Pumpkin Figure Contest, or participating in Leadership Lakes Region's Education Day. There are many ways you can support our scholarship programs such as buying tickets to our many raffles, purchasing a Bloomin' 4 Good bouquet of Flowers when we're the Non-Profit of the Month at Hannaford's or donating directly through our annual appeal. I can assure you every little bit counts and has enabled the LRSF to continue to make a difference since 1956.

I want to thank our gracious scholarship donors who allow us the honor to steward their memorial donations to our deserving student community. Additionally, I'd like to also thank Karen, Chris, Maggie and Aprill, our LRSF staff who keep the day to day organization running like a well-oiled machine! I am thankful for and look forward to working with our Volunteer Board of 19 members to continue the work of the Foundation over the next year. Please say hello when you see us in town, at a school or community meeting or event, and thank you for your continued support!

*Gayle Price*



Plans are underway to hold our annual LRSF Benefit Night at Fratello's on Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. If you attend, please make sure to mention that you are there that night to support LRSF, and Fratello's will donate 25% of the food portion of the bill to LRSF.

Please note that this also includes any takeout orders between those hours. We will also be holding the live drawings for our annual Winter Blues Raffle! Tickets can be purchased on our website. You do not need to be present to win.

### ***A Thank You Message to Retiring Trustee, Lori Fasshauer***



Lori has completed her 9-year term as a vital part of the Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation Board of Trustees.

Lori served as a trustee and in both the Vice President and President positions. She was instrumental in many new initiatives for the Foundation, including the Pumpkin Figure Contest and the Cakes and Cookies Calendar Raffle.

It was at Lori's suggestion that LRSF host Informational Sessions at a central location for students to attend. These Informational Sessions have become very successful in helping students navigate the application process.

During Lori's term as President, she was always willing to offer valuable advice and assistance to the Directors of the Foundation and ensure the future success of Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation.

We recognize and appreciate the hard work and many contributions Lori has made throughout these years.

Our sincere thanks to Lori.

Karen Switzer, Executive Director

Chris Guilmett, Assistant Director

### **New Funds, Memorials or Additions to Already Established Funds that occurred in December of 2023, after the Year End Issue was published**



**The Lakes Region Chordsmen Scholarship** - The Lakes Region Chordsmen is the Laconia, NH chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society in the Northeastern District. The scholarship was established in 2023 when the Lakes Region Chordsmen disbanded.

**Nancy L Walker Memorial Music Scholarship** - (1933 - 2023) a 1951 graduate of Laconia High School, Nancy's life was a beautiful symphony of love and devotion to her faith, family and music. Nancy was a talented musician from a young age. She dedicated her life to serving God through her music ministry. Nancy was the choir

director at Our Lady of the Lakes Church in Lakeport from 1960 - mid 1970's, and then as the organist and music director at St Mary's Church in Tilton for more than 40 years. Nancy's melody may have ceased, but her legacy echoes in those whose lives she touched with her music and in the hearts of those she loved.



### **The Following Funds Will Celebrate Benchmark Anniversaries in 2024 – We Are Honored to Recognize Them:**

#### **5 Years (2019)**

**Bob Dassatti Memorial Scholarship** - (1962 - 2019) Bob spent 18 years working at Franklin Savings Bank but his true passion was community service. "Just step up and serve" was his motto. He served nine years on the Laconia School Board, three as chair. He played a role in the renovations for each of the Laconia schools but was proudest of his part in the construction of the new Huot Technical Center. Bob's real focus, was the youth of Laconia. He was the director of LAYBL for many years and started the Laconia Pride AAU teams and organized summer basketball for middle school players. In 2018 he received the Debra Bieniarz Memorial Award which honors an individual for their dedication to the youth of Laconia. This scholarship commemorates a loving family man that departed this earth into the loving arms of Jesus on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019, surrounded by his loving family after a five-year battle with colon cancer. Together with his soulmate Tracy, they raised three children.

**Linda Desrochers Memorial Fund** - (1963 - 2018) Established by her best friend and husband, Sal Pascarelli, with the support of friend, Nick Franguidakis. Linda was born in Franklin, NH and later moved to Belmont. Her work as a bus driver for the Gilford School District was a labor of love, as she loved the children of Gilford and the staff at GES. In addition to her job as a driver, Linda was also a caregiver. She and Sal attended the Lakes Region Vineyard Church in Laconia. Sal wanted to establish this scholarship in memory of this special lady who "touched so many people during her too short lifetime." The award will benefit a Gilford High School senior or graduate.

**Ava Doris Memorial** - (2000-2017) In 2019 a permanent endowment was set up in memory of Ava, a former Gilford student, who lost her life tragically in a car accident. Ava was well rounded and insightful and looked at life from a variety of perspectives. She enjoyed lacrosse and field hockey as well as time with family and friends. This scholarship will be awarded to a Lakes Region student pursuing a career in art or music. Ava understood the challenge that students in the arts face financially both for school and for future employment. A strong consideration will be passion for community service or giving back/paying it forward in some way, just as Ava had.

**Robert W. Fagula Memorial** - (1952 -2019) Bob was a graduate of LHS and UNH. His passion in life was sports, which was evidenced in his years of dedication to coaching youth sports. He was involved with Babe Ruth Baseball as well as Pop Warner Football. He was more than a coach, he was a mentor striving always to encourage his athletes to be well-rounded, both on the field and in life. Bob worked with his father at the Sewing Machine Center on Union Avenue and later took over the business until his retirement. At one point, he took the time to convert electric sewing machines to a non-electric foot pumping pedal machine so that people in Africa were able to use the machines to make clothing and goods in their community: a life changing gift to the people who received one. He was a gentle soul, kind-hearted and generous with his time.

**Laconia Youth Football and Cheer: Rod Roy Award** - Early in 2019, the Board of the Laconia Youth Football and Cheer Association approached LRSF regarding a new scholarship award. They were looking for a way to honor Mr. Rod Roy, for his decades of dedicated service to the Laconia Chiefs. It was decided that creating a scholarship, in his name, would be the perfect recognition for someone who has done so much for the youth of the Lakes Region. Mr. Rod Roy was a three-sport honor student who graduated from LHS. He went on to graduate from Daniel Webster College. Rod returned to his hometown and has spent so much of his adult life, to date, dedicated to coaching and guiding the youth of the Lakes Region. He has coached youth basketball, football and lacrosse teams as well as middle school basketball and high school football and lacrosse. He has always put an equal weight on academics as well as athletics. Many of those who know him say that Rod is "a selfless individual who gives up any free time to shape the youth of the area."

**Lighthouse Contracting Group** - in effort to support those students entering a blue collar career, Lighthouse Contracting Group established this scholarship in 2019. As the owner of Lighthouse Contracting, Jeremy Doucet understands the value of working in the trades. Providing quality craftsmanship since 2006, Mr. Doucet wanted to find a way to support those students entering the industry.

**Michael B. Richard Memorial** - (1990-2017) Michael was a 2009 graduate of Belmont High School. He loved the outdoors with a keen fondness for birds. Michael could identify every bird by sight as well as the sounds they made. He served with the National Guard and was thrilled to serve on the NH National Guard Honors Team. His years of service included a year in Kuwait/Iraq. He was honorably discharged in 2014. Michael loved to fish, truly his favorite pastime. His most treasured vacation activity was tagging sharks for the NOAA Fisheries in Key West. Michael will long be remembered for his loving nature, his sensitivity and his kindness to others.

**Ruby Todd Memorial** - (1895 - 1965) Established in 2019 by the Todd family, Ruby Madeline Todd was the loving step-mother to Thomas Todd, Jr. (1929-2018). Affectionately called "Grandma Ruby," Ruby was the guiding influence for Tom as a teenager. Ruby's culinary expertise; her love of theater; the many happy summers spent at the Alton Bay Christian Campground; and insistence on a strong education, were all the impetus Tom needed to become a loving uncle, successful educator and devoted Mason. Tom's unwavering gratitude for all that Ruby provided was the driving force to create this scholarship. It was Tom's hope to provide a deserving Prospect Mountain student with the opportunity to similarly flourish.

**Barbara Van Uden Memorial** - (1948 - 2019) Established in 2019 by her family. Barbara was born in Manchester, NH and earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Keene State College. She was a dedicated and gifted educator, teaching for the Hooksett School district for many years until her retirement. Barbara loved watching children learn and grow. She moved to Laconia in 2005 where she became a member of the South Down Shores Community Club. She was a lady of wisdom and incredible strength, evidenced by her courageous fifteen-year battle with cancer, which earned her the nickname "Tiny but Tough". Barbara especially enjoyed spending time with her family, each bringing her endless pride and joy.

### 10 Years (2014)

**Devin M. Denoncourt Memorial** - (1979-2014) Devin attended Laconia Schools from kindergarten through high school. He participated in Lou Athanas Basketball, Pop Warner Football, and Laconia Little League Baseball, but football was his passion and he played as an offensive and defensive lineman during the Sachems back to back State Championship seasons in 1995 and 1996, was Captain his senior year, and represented Laconia on the NH All Star Shrine Football Team in 1997. Devin graduated from Southern New Hampshire University in 2001 where he majored in Hospitality Management. He worked for Marriott International starting as a front desk manager while in college and worked his way up to become General Manager at the Courtyard Marriott at Foggy Bottom in Washington, DC.

**Spaulding Family Fund** - In the spirit of gratitude and the wish to benefit others, the Spaulding Family of Canterbury has established a permanent scholarship fund, as well as subsidizing five annual scholarships, to be awarded to Belmont High School students pursuing the following majors or fields of study: 1) Medicine, 2) Arts, 3) Trades/Vocational/Technical, 4) Engineering, and 5) Education, which in turn, sponsor: 1) Caring, 2) Meaning, 3) Making, 4) Innovating, and 5) Teaching.

## 15 Years (2009)

**John P. Ball & Margaret Ball Memorial** – John (1923-2009) was a dedicated instructor, whose professional career as an educator spanned over 40 years, as a teacher, vice principal, principal, assistant superintendent and superintendent. Margaret (1926-2011) was an ardent member and past president of the Lakeport Woman's Club, dedicating many years to the worthwhile causes supported by the organization. John & Margaret were a devoted team for 57 years.

**Chelsea Rae Bowen Memorial** – (1993 – 2009) Established in memory of Chelsea, a Gilford High School student, who unexpectedly passed away during her freshman year. Chelsea will always be remembered for her bright smile, infectious laughter, and optimistic attitude. While she may have never finished her freshman year, she still managed to make a mark on everyone she knew. This scholarship is given to a GHS graduating senior that shares a love for art and contributes to making the school a better place, just as Chelsea did.

**Ryan J. Charland Memorial** – (1971 – 2009) This scholarship commemorates a unique individual who was loved by all his classmates, family and friends. Ryan was a Laconia High School Class of 1990 graduate and graduated magna cum laude in 1994 from UNH. In high school, Ryan was three sport star in football, golf, and was Captain of the State Championship Baseball team, an accomplished musician, chess player, an excellent snowboarder, and a skilled hiker who scaled each of New Hampshire's 5,000 foot peaks.

**Lakes Region Board of Realtors Scholarship** - The goal of Lakes Region Board of Realtors is to serve its members and the general public through active leadership, continuing education, and support for the highest ethical standards. In addition, LRBR provides an annual scholarship to twelve Lakes Region high schools as a way of giving back to the local communities it serves

**Lois F. and Charles Plimpton Memorial** - Lois (1932-2009) was loved and respected as a teacher for twenty-eight years. Ever the dedicated educator, even after retirement, she continued to support educational activities, offering her expertise and support to staff and administration. Charles (1924-2016), Lois's beloved husband, was also esteemed for his work with the youth of the community. He served as the executive director of the Lakes Region WMCA for 32 years and then began a second career as the evening program coordinator for Lakes Region Community College, where he served for 26 more years retiring at age 85. Lois and Charlie dedicated their lives to serving the youth of the Lakes Region. They were both a positive force in countless lives of NH youth. Additional monies were added to the fund with the passing of Patricia Webster (1933-2019). Pat and Lois shared a love of education and children. Pat was a retired educator (Title 1 Reading Teacher) with the Shaker Regional School District for over 20 years.

## 20 Years (2004)

**Florence & Signe Bianco Memorial** - Florence (1906 – 1998) and Singe (1908 – 2004) were proprietors of the Whispering Pines Cottages at the Weirs for many years. Having no children of their own to perpetuate their memory, this fund will serve as a meaningful and lasting tribute to them by helping others fulfill their educational goals.

**Donald M. & Mary A. Ettelson Award** - Established in 2004 by the Orthopedic Professional Association (OPA) in honor of Dr. Donald M. Ettelson (1932 - 2023) in acknowledgement of his tremendous contributions to the practice of orthopedic medicine in the Lakes Region and in recognition of his retirement from the OPA after 38 years. He was said to have "paved the way" for many fellow doctors and loved to mentor new surgeons as well as learn from them. Once retired Donald "Zeke" filled his days with exercise, volunteering at the hospital, hobbies and attending educational and arts events with his wife, Mary. Mary Ettelson (1932 - 2021) earned her BA in Nursing and while raising the couple's five children, she worked as a nurse at LRGH, Lakes Region OB-GYN and as office manager at the OPA. She always wanted to help those in need. In light of this, she was able to form a scout troop for people with special needs, visited hospice patients after work, helped with blood drives and volunteered at St. Vincent de Paul as well as LRGH and the Hospital Auxiliary.

**James & Nancy Farr Memorial** - James (1943-2004), a highly-respected science teacher, taught at Gilford High School for 21 years and retired after 35 years of teaching. He was described as an unassuming, down-to-earth person, who shunned personal recognition, but was always willing to lend a helping hand. Nancy (1945-2012), taught first and second graders for more than 25 years in Gilmanton. She set so many on the right path to learning in their formative years in elementary school and made a real difference in their lives.

**Leland Gifford Memorial** - Established in 2004 by Mark Gifford and Kelly Gifford Curley to honor their father and perpetuate his zeal for gardening. Although Mr. Gifford was employed as a foreman for the Laconia Public Works Department, his true avocation was agriculture. His children wish to help students pursue their education in the fields of agriculture, horticulture or environmental studies, with a real preference for agricultural related majors. This scholarship serves the students of Winnisquam Regional High School.

**Helen D. Martin Memorial** - (1908 – 2004) A fitting tribute to a community-spirited lady, who served as Executive Director of the Laconia Housing & Redevelopment Authority for 25 years, retiring at the age of 80. In 1956, Mrs. Martin was among the group of concerned citizens, who founded the Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation. She became a donor representative on behalf of the Laconia Woman's Club and later served as Trustee of the Foundation for 27 years.

**Mark E. Miller Memorial** – (1960 – 2004) When this seventeen-year veteran of the Laconia Fire Department lost his life the outpouring of sentiments was staggering. Mark was often referred to as a hero, not only because of the way he died, but because of the way he lived. His infectious smile and laughter, as well as his devotion to family and duty were also frequently repeated themes describing the fallen firefighter.

**Kenneth Scroggs Memorial** - (1946-2004) Ken, who was killed by terrorists in Saudi Arabia, was remembered as a dedicated employee, a devoted friend and a wonderful husband, father and son. Raised in Laconia and a graduate of LHS, he worked for a dozen years in the middle east as an electronics engineer with Advanced Electronics. He had been the firm's business development manager and was responsible for training some of its Saudi staff. A close friend described him as "a man of exceptional ability who was a model for the young Saudi staff to learn from. Another friend added he "influenced our lives by his presence and was a man of humor and generosity who loved his family friends and his country." The fund was established to assist students pursuing an engineering degree.

**VFW Nursing Award** - The VFW Laconia Post #1670 established a trust fund in 1985 for scholarships to needy or deserving persons to attend nursing school. In 2004, this scholarship was added to the LRSF family of awards. The Laconia VFW post, founded in 1929, has an excellent history of service to area veterans, their families and the community.

### 25 Years (1999)

**Chase-Waterman-Leonard Fund** - Established in 1999 by Larry Leonard (1934 - 2022) to honor his benefactress, Agnes Chase (1890 - 1979), as well as his Uncle, Charles (1881 - 1959) & his Aunt, Sadie (1879 - 1957) Waterman. Agnes was an employee of the Charles F. Waterman Jewelry Store for 31 years. Charles Waterman was a well-respected and successful jeweler in Laconia for 53 years and his wife, Sadie (1879 - 1957), assisted him in the store during its 40-year span of operation. Following the tradition of his father and grandfather, Larry became a pharmacist and started his fifty-five-year career in Laconia. Larry was also well recognized for his skill as a church organist and an organ historian and restorer. He was an active Free Mason and Past President of the Randolph (Vermont) Historical Society.

**Rock A. & Hayden A. Moon Memorial** - Established in 1999 by family, friends and associates in recognition of his service to his community and its youth. Rock (1958-1999) was the former owner of Moon's TV and Radio Shack and several Video Choice stores at the time of his death. He served on the Board of Directors for Provident National Bank in Tilton and on the Town of Belmont Planning Board. He and his business sponsored several sports teams. Hayden A. Moon (1992-2020) completed an intensive summer music program at Berklee College of Music in Boston, MA while in high school and went on to the New England Institute of Art furthering his education majoring in Audio and Media Technology. In 2009, he founded HM Recording Studio. In 2018, Hayden followed his lifelong dream and relocated to CA. Hayden was a gifted musician. He was passionate about his work, caring and kind with family and friends and he left his footprints on many lives.

**Esther Nighswander Memorial** - (1912 - 1999) Esther, an active leader in social service organizations and will be remembered for her dedication and involvement in numerous civic groups. Upon Mrs. Nighswander's passing, Esther included a bequest through her estate to continue helping others, especially college-bound students in the Lakes Region. It was said of Esther that no matter what she took part in, she was always passionate and helpful. She served in the NH Legislature, was a member of the Laconia and then the Gilford school boards and an active participant in the United Way among many other service groups.

**Chester Perkins Memorial** - (1913-1999) Chet will be remembered for his lifelong dedication to the needs of his community. He was a "man who made a difference." Established by Laconia Savings Bank (now Bank of NH), because of their esteem for him as an individual and their admiration of his leadership skills as president and chairman, donated the funds for this scholarship award so that his contributions to the community will be perpetuated for generations to come.

**Penny Pitou & Milo Pike Fund** - As one of the first recipients of a scholarship awarded through the newly-incorporated Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation in 1956, Penny Pitou excelled scholastically and in sports, and as they say: "the rest is history," culminating in numerous skiing awards, competing in the Olympics twice and winning two silver medals. As owner of Penny Pitou Travel since 1974, Penny proved to be an adept and successful businessperson. Milo Pike generously gave to many scholarship funds. He retired from Pike Industries, one of the largest paving companies in NH, which is now under the fifth generation of Pike family management.

**William Volkman Sr. Memorial** - (1910 - 1999) Established by a former student and LRSF recipient, Steven Hodgdon (LHS Class of 1965) to honor this caring gentleman and dedicated teacher. Mr. Volkman was highly regarded professionally and personally in this community as a mathematics and graphics arts teacher at Laconia High School.

### 30 Years (1994)

**Leo & Esther Barcomb Fund** - Leo (1916 - 1994), a WWII veteran, was one of the first people involved in the planning of the New Hampshire Vocational-Technical Colleges. He was also an instructor and held a variety of positions at the school. Esther (1919-2003) was also a staunch advocate of continued education.

**James E. Lucas, Jr. Memorial** - Jim (1965-1994), a US Army veteran, was killed in a civilian plane crash. He was a caring individual, with a wry sense of humor. A young man who was not afraid to work for his dreams, he was known to always be fair and a friend to all. With the passing of James' mother's husband, Arthur "Leo" Milette, (1942-2019) friends and family added to the fund in memory of Leo.

### 35 Years (1989)

**Aime & Cecile Charest Memorial Fund** - Aime (1935 - 1989) was the Asst. Superintendent of Laconia Development Services at the time of his death. He dedicated 20 years of his career in the areas of mental health and the developmentally challenged. Cecile (1938 - 2010) pursued her education and earned an Accounting Certification from Katherine Gibbs Executive Secretarial Program. Both Mr. & Mrs. Charest were ardent supporters of higher education, especially students with learning disabilities.

**Esma C. Ford** – (1909 – 1989) Esma worked in the N.H. school system for over 45 years and had been a teacher consultant for SAU 30 for many years, retiring in 1975. Miss Ford had been a long-time supporter of LRSF with her donations to increase the annual Laconia Woman’s Club Scholarships. When she died in 1989, she bequeathed this fund to perpetuate her life-long commitment to education.

**Lorraine & Sylvio Labbe Memorial** - Both Lorraine (1934 – 1989) and Sylvio (1932 – 1991) had a genuine concern for the educational future of local students. Lorraine was an Administrative Assistant and Paralegal for the law firm of Normandin, Cheney & O’Neil and active in the selection process for recipients of the Lela Lancaster Scholarship Fund. Sylvio was instrumental in founding the Lakes Region Petroleum Board of Trade – J. Bart & Theresa Connors Fund. Over the years, many beloved family members have been commemorated through memorial gifts to increase Lorraine and Sylvio’s scholarship endowment fund.

**David J. Murray** - (1940-1989) Lt. David J. Murray began his career as a police officer in Laconia in 1966 and remained with them until his death. He strongly believed in furthering his education in order to benefit himself as a police officer. He took a wide variety of classes through the FBI National Academy graduating from the academy in 1976. Lt. Murray was a role model for all police officers and was instrumental in encouraging and guiding personnel under his authority. The scholarship was established in David’s name to aid students who plan to study law enforcement.

**Shaw Family Memorial** - Originally established as the Bruce L. Shaw Memorial Fund by family, friends and business associates. A graduate of the Laconia High School Class of 1960, and a Vietnam Veteran, Bruce L. Shaw (1942-1989) was instrumental in establishing and administering the LHS Class of 1960 Scholarship in honor of their deceased classmates. At the time of his death, he was president and chairman of the board of Laconia Electric Supply Co. and vice president of Laconia Fire Equipment Co., and was involved in promoting youth and athletics in the Lakes Region. The fund was expanded after the untimely passing of Scott Shaw (1970-1996), to include living and loving offerings made in his memory. Members of the Shaw family continue to periodically add to the fund.

**John Reider Svindland & Nancy Svindland Memorial** – John (1935-1989) was described as “A Man for All Seasons.” His eulogy stated: “By his actions, not just his words, he made our lives a little brighter, a little happier, and a little more worthwhile”. His wife, Nancy (1935-2004), was a good-hearted, fun-loving person. John and Nancy were staunch advocates of higher education. They are both missed, but certainly not forgotten.

#### 40 Years (1984)

**Wayne Spears Memorial** – (1951 – 1984) Wayne, a graduate of Laconia High School Class of 1969, was a business major graduate of UNH and a partner with his brother, Scott, in the Spears Brothers Building Salvage and Wrecking Company for 12 years, before his untimely death in 1984, following the collapse of a building he had been demolishing in Concord. Wayne’s family, friends, former classmates and business associates started this fund in his memory.

#### 50 Years (1974)

**Dana “Ace” Beane Memorial** – (1895-1974) An outstanding athlete, who acquired the nickname “Ace” while playing semi-pro baseball. Dana served in the U.S. Army during World War I. He joined the Wilkinson Funeral Home in 1918 and in 1946 opened the Wilkinson-Beane Funeral Home on Pleasant Street in Laconia. Mr. Beane was also noted for his extensive involvement in civic and service organizations in the Lakes Region.

**John H. & Sheldon W. Dow Memorial** - Established in 1974 as a tribute to Sheldon W. Dow (1932 – 1973) and added to in 1980 with the passing of John H. Dow (1908 - 1980), grandson of the founder of Dow Fuels. John H. Dow started in the family business in 1930 driving a truck. As a boy he worked with the horse teams loading wood and coal. John was still serving as president of Dow Corporation at the time of his death in 1980. Over the years the company, which was founded in 1878, grew to be one of the major oil and fuel firms in the Lakes Region. Sheldon Dow was the fourth generation of his family with Dow Fuels. He joined the firm in 1958 and was serving as president and treasurer at the time of his death in 1974. The members of the Dow Family have been noted for their athletic abilities and involvement in numerous community programs. Furthering the tradition of commitment to Lakes Region youths and sports activities, the Dow Family donated a scoreboard to Laconia High School. Although the Dow Fuel Company is no longer a family-owned business, the Dow Family name will be remembered and esteemed in the Lakes Region because of their past and continued involvement in civic and educational affairs.

**Kenneth A. Lund Memorial** – (1955 – 1974) This young man died after a long battle with leukemia. A 1973 Laconia High School graduate and a talented musician, Kenneth had been awarded the Jay Hurd Award for outstanding band performance. This fund perpetuates his love of music by helping music majors fulfill their educational goals.

**Willard & Ruth Rollins fund** - Ruth & Willard Rollins established this scholarship fund to help needy and deserving Alton High School (now Prospect Mountain High School) students further their education.

### 55 Years (1969)

**Belmont High School** - Through its various support groups, has been awarding scholarships to its graduates since 1969.

**Irving Selig Memorial** - Established through a generous bequest upon Irving's passing in 1969. Mr. Selig, well known throughout New England as a successful industrialist, supported many charitable and scholarship causes over the years. It is typical of the Selig family's convictions that recipients of this scholarship be unrestricted.

### 60 Years (1964)

**Gilford Academy Trust** - The Gilford Academy was incorporated by the State Legislature in 1820 and opened its educational facilities in 1829 on S. Main Street, which at that time was part of the "new" town of Gilford. (Prior to 1812 land south of the Winnepesaukee River was part of the town of Gilmanton.) It relocated in 1850 to a newly-built classical structure, from which the area of Academy Square and Academy Street derived its name. Laconia, then known as Meredith Bridge, was incorporated as a town in 1855. The Gilford Academy continued to operate until about 1886, at which time the Gilford Academy Corporation leased the land and buildings to the City of Laconia, which then constructed the new Laconia High School on Academy Square. The original Gilford Academy building was moved to Court Street and subsequently demolished during the early stages of Urban Renewal. For seventy-eight years the remainder of the tuition payments of the Gilford Academy collected interest in a savings account. In October of 1964, Arthur W. Dinsmoor, the last surviving Trustee of the Gilford Academy Corporation, petitioned the Belknap County Superior Court for these funds to be transferred to the Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation "for the education or scholarships for the benefit of boys and girls (who are) resident in the area described in the act, to wit, Meredith Bridge Village, or Laconia, NH".

**Willard G. Martin Memorial Kiwanis Club Award** - (1906 - 1964) Willard had come to Laconia in 1941 as personnel director of Scott & Williams, Inc., in which capacity he was employed for 10 years. In 1951, he returned to his original vocation as realtor and became associated with BYSE Agency. His family donates to this award in loving memory of their Dad and in honor of his dedication to numerous civic and Masonic organizations, in particular his long-time involvement in the Laconia Kiwanis Club.

**Each year we recognize the Laconia High School classes that have established scholarship funds.  
This year we are pleased to recognize the LHS classes of 1959 & 1964.**



**Laconia High School Class of 1959** - The fund was established in 2020 as "Our gift to the community". 2024 marks the 65th graduation anniversary of the LHS Class of 1959. A state championship baseball team and a ski team who won the state championship for 2 years in a row, as well as a nationally ranked debate and public speaking team who placed high in the national contest, and high achieving students in liberal arts, math and science, were just a few of the Class of '59 achievements. One student was selected as a member of the Laconia High School Athletic Hall of Fame having excelled in football, basketball, track and golf. A ski jumper attended the University of Colorado and was selected for the University's Athletic Hall of Fame. Members of the graduating class gather together regularly for monthly lunches, and have had reunions every 10 years.

**Laconia High School Class of 1964** - 2024 marks the 60th anniversary of the graduation of the LHS Class of 1964. Following their successful 50th anniversary in 2014, the Class of '64 reunion committee voted to turn over the proceeds of their fundraiser to LRSF. As alumni, it was their wish to help support further education for some future Laconia High School seniors and graduates. Classmates came from far and wide to attend the many fun activities schedule throughout their 50th celebration. The Class of 1964 also donated a 50th reunion banner to be used by other classes to celebrate and promote their events. In addition, many donations have been given as memorials for classmates, friends or family members.

### 2024 Upcoming Events!

**March 6<sup>th</sup>** beginning at 4:00 - Fratello's Laconia - LRSF Benefit Night at Fratello's (see page 1 for more information)

**Winter Blues Raffle** - Be on the lookout! Tickets will be available soon through our website under the Winter Blues tab! Live drawings to take place at LRSF Benefit Night on March 6<sup>th</sup> at Fratello's. You do not need to be present to win.

Check out our website to stay up to date on our current activities at: [www.lrscholarship.org](http://www.lrscholarship.org) or follow us on Facebook and Instagram!



(left photo) - Outgoing LRSF President, Joan Frates, passes the gavel to Incoming President, Gayle Price! Thank you Joan!

(right photo) - LRSF President, Gayle Price, welcomes new Board Trustee, Scott Davis! Welcome Scott!



Our first Application Information Session of the year was held on January 9, 2024 at the BNH Operations Center. It was a great opportunity for students and parents to learn about LRSF and how to begin the application process. Thank you to BNH for the use of the room, and Thank You to Sal's Pizza for providing pizza for the evening!

The 2024 - 2025 LRSF Scholarship Application can now be found on our website: [www.lrscholarship.org](http://www.lrscholarship.org) under the "Applicants" tab.

The final deadline for filing an application is Monday, April 1, 2024.

We have a few unique scholarships that are exceptions to our usual application process. Each of these may have a separate application to be filed along with our application. Check our website for more specific details.

**Annalee Thorndike Art Competition Scholarship** - is available to high school seniors planning on majoring in art related fields

**The Stockwell Scholarship** - is an essay competition, focusing on Patriotism, open to students from Gilmanton, NH

**Klaus Biemann Science Scholarship** - an essay competition for Prospect Mountain HS students who intend to major in science at a four-year school.

We also have two special awards sponsored by the **Lakes Region Builders and Remodelers**, available to students going into a construction related fields.

~ WE NOW OFFER ON OUR WEBSITE ~  
[www.lrscholarship.org](http://www.lrscholarship.org)  
   