

AAFES Retired Employees Association (AREA) 2008 Scholarship Program

This year AREA awarded scholarships totaling \$46,500. Although the Board initially approved twelve scholarship awards earlier in the year, it was obvious during the evaluation process that there were more than twelve deserving applicants. The Scholarship Committee asked the board to approve ten additional \$1,000 awards. The board unanimously endorsed the proposal. We were able to award scholarship monies to twenty-two of the twenty-seven qualified applicants. I am proud to tell you that \$346,295 in awards has been made to 202 deserving students since the AREA scholarship program's inception in 1985. A brief recap of each 2008 awardees accomplishments and aspirations is shown below.

This was another banner year for the AREA Scholarship Program. With forty-five applications received and twenty-seven of those meeting AREA criteria, 2008 proved to be the second highest participation rate since the program began but with twenty-two awards 2008 had the highest number of single year awards ever made. Having said that, I would be remiss if I failed to mention how funds have been and continue to be made available for this outstanding "AAFES Employee Oriented" program. The program garners support from both industry partners and from many within our own ranks who choose to recognize loved ones with a donation to the AREA Scholarship fund. Industry support and individual donations are key factors to the program's past and future success.

Here is a summary of this year's process. All applicants were screened to assure minimum requirements were met. After meeting the "AAFES Employee, Son or Daughter" and minimum academic criteria, each application was assigned a file number used to track applications throughout the evaluation process. Qualified applicant files were reviewed privately by each member of the evaluation committee and ranked using academic achievement, awards, school and outside activity participation, letters of recommendation and finally, an essay themed on why "...I deserve this scholarship..."

All scores were aggregated, ties were broken and the award roster finalized. After that, an applicant summary together with the committee's additional awards recommendation was sent to Chuck Poffenbarger, AREA President. The AREA BOD reviewed the committee's recommendations and by vote approved the ten additional awards. Chuck Poffenbarger then sent congratulatory letters to each awardee detailing the scholarship.

Applicant academic standing was exceptional again this year. All applicants, including those not meeting AREA's minimum scholarship requirements, should be justifiably proud knowing they reflect great credit on themselves and the families that support them. It is obvious that I was impressed with the high quality of each and every applicant and more importantly, committee members were impressed as well. Speaking of the evaluation committee, I personally thank all five members of the committee who voluntarily took time and applied exceptional judgment to the evaluation process. The members are: Duane Walsh, Vivian Skalsky, Don Smith, Darryl Richards and Richard Sheff.

And finally, don't forget about next year. If you know a qualifying student entering his or her first college semester in 2009, make sure they review our Scholarship Program at www.aafes.com/area

!!! AREA loves to award scholarships to deserving students !!!

Regards,



Thomas Gallagher
Director, AREA Scholarship Program



Army & Air Force Exchange Service
P.O. Box 660202
Dallas, TX 75266-0202
(214) 312-2011

MAY 28 2008

TO: AREA MEMBERS

One of the best aspects of leading an organization like the Army and Air Force Exchange Service is that you have so many opportunities to meet the wonderful people who work in our stores and other facilities. In our travels, we visit hundreds of stores each year and see all the exciting and innovative things AAFES people are doing to serve Troops, military retirees and their deserving families.

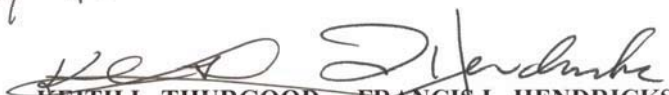
Given the emphasis we place on meeting the needs of "The Best Customers in the World," it's only fitting that we also find time and resources to reward the accomplishments and potential that exists within our own AAFES families. Thankfully, the AAFES Retired Employees Association (AREA) has once again done just that in the most direct way possible – by supporting the education and advancement of our Associate's children.

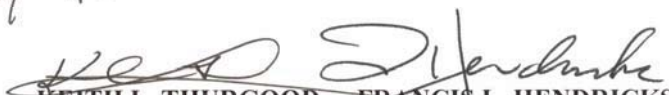
One of AAFES' critical challenges is to "Build the Bench" so that our organization will have the leadership it needs to grow and thrive in the years to come. Through this scholarship program, AREA also is helping to build the bench by encouraging academic excellence. Since 1985, more than 200 young scholars have benefited from your generosity.

We can only guess at what marvelous new ideas and inventions will derive from these endowments. But we can be sure of one thing – without the support of organizations like AREA; many of these young people would have been denied their academic careers.

So on behalf of the more than 44,000 AAFES Associates we have the pleasure of leading, congratulations to the winners of AREA's 2008 scholarship program. You represent the best hopes of your parents and we applaud your success, both now and in the years to come.

*Thank for all you do!
TCG*


KEITH L. THURGOOD
BG, U.S. ARMY
Commander


FRANCIS L. HENDRICKS
Brig Gen, USAF
Deputy Commanding General


MIKE HOWARD
Chief Operating Officer

PRESENTING YOUR 2008 AREA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Sean Michael Miller: Sean, son of Stephen and Zenaida Miller, is the recipient of the 2008 Marilyn Iverson Scholarship Award. This \$5,000 endowment is given to the top AREA Scholarship recipient for outstanding academic achievement and community involvement. This fall Sean enters college seeking a degree in Biomedical Engineering. During his high school career at Westover High School in Fayetteville, North Carolina, Sean balanced academics, school activity participation and community involvement in outstanding fashion. Academically, he was a member of the National Honor Society, won first place in 5th annual First Robotics Competition Palmetto Regional of South Carolina and was a member of the Academy of Scholars at his high school. He also found time for varsity tennis and to volunteer for the Toys for Tots campaign and Project HELP (Helping Enhance Learning Potential). In recognition of his outstanding participation, Sean was recognized with the President's Volunteer Service Award.



Christina Wagoner: Christina, the daughter of Ralph and Valerie Wagoner, has been awarded a \$5,000 AREA Scholarship. In her high school career at Hebron High School in Carrollton, Texas, Christina was recognized as an AP Scholar with Distinction, was a member of the National Honor Society and received the Navy League of the U. S. Theodore Roosevelt Award. She also served as her high school chairperson for the Annual Toys for Tots Campaign as a senior and served on that committee for the three previous years. Christina intends to pursue a degree in English, History and Women's Studies as she enters college this fall.



Brooke Michaela Bova: Brooke received a \$4,000 AREA Scholarship award, and intends to use that award to pursue a career in Marketing as she enters college this fall. Brooke, the daughter of Michael and Rochelle Bova, ranked first in her class of 300 at Dutchtown High School in Hampton, Georgia. She was a member of the National Honor Society and in her senior year was invited to the Congressional Student Leadership Conference in Washington D.C. Brooke was also active in extra circular activities as a captain of the varsity soccer team and a member of award winning school chorus. Brooke was also active in volunteering as a tutor for students needing help in chemistry and geometry.



Stefany Holguin: Stefany is the daughter of Freddy and Norma Holguin. She attended Niceville High School in Niceville, Florida. She was awarded a \$2,500 Area Scholarship in recognition of her outstanding high school record for academic achievement, school activity participation and activities outside the school environment. Academically, Stefany was a member of the National Honor Society, was awarded the United States Achievement Academy National Award and was listed in Who's Who in American High Schools. She was the assistant editor of her school newspaper and was involved in Red Cross Blood drives as a volunteer at both Eglin AFB and Ft. Lewis. Stefany will enter college this fall with as a Pharmacy major.



Christopher L. Eckhardt: Christopher, the recipient of a \$2,500 Area Scholarship award, is the son of Gary and Mary Beth Eckhardt. This fall he will enter college seeking a degree in Theater Design/Tech and Business. Christopher has been named a scholar and accepted into Honors College at Auburn University. He was a member of his Science Olympiad Team as well as a member of the marching and jazz bands at Starr's Mill High School in Fayetteville, Georgia. While participating actively in school related activities, Christopher also volunteers at his church where he runs its electronic equipment and plays trumpet in the church ensemble.



David Atherton: David has been awarded a \$2,500 AREA Scholarship. This fall he plans to enter college seeking a degree in Biology. During his high school career at Midlothian High School in Midlothian, Texas, David has been a consistent finalist in regional science meets and, in fact, finished first in the UIL regional science competition in his junior year. In his spare time David tutored younger students in mathematics. Both of David's parents, Paul and Debra Atherton, work for AAFES.



Christopher Curtis Collins: Christopher, the son of Daniel and Vicki Lynne Collins, has been awarded a \$2,500 AREA Scholarship. As Christopher enters college this fall, he will be pursuing a dual major in Business and Political Science. As a senior at Widefield High School in Colorado Springs, Colorado, Christopher was president of DECA Marketing Organization and as a junior represented that organization at its statewide assembly. Christopher was a member of the National Honor Society, an at-large representative on Widefield's Senior Council and a member of the Forensics/Debating team.



Ashley Libby: Ashley is the daughter of Brian and Helen Libby. She was awarded a \$2,500 AREA Scholarship. Ashley enters college as a Business Major in Pre-Law. During her stellar high school career at James W. Martin High School in Arlington, Texas, she twice ranked nationally on the Latin Exam: Suma Cum Laude as a junior and Magna Cum Laude as a senior. Additionally she was a member of the National Honor Society, an AP Scholar and was president of her school's Latin club. Ashley was also very active in her church, having gone on four separate mission trips: Two each to New Orleans and Matamoros, Mexico.



Christopher Sean Wagner: Christopher, the son of Yvonne Jones, received a \$2,500 AREA Scholarship. Entering college this fall, Christopher will major in Green Engineering. In Harlem High School in Harlem, Georgia, Christopher was recognized with nominations to the Georgia Governor's Honors Program in two categories: French and Technology. He also garnered recognition as a member of the National Honor Society and as a Xerox American History Student. In addition to these scholastic accomplishments, Christopher found time to volunteer in his school's Peer Tutor/Mentoring Program.



Katherine Milewski: Katherine received a \$2,500 AREA Scholarship. She is the daughter of Frank and Marilyn Milewski, both AAFES employees. While at Duncanville High School in Duncanville, Texas, Katherine garnering recognition as a writer receiving such awards as "Superior Feature Story" TAJE (Texas Association of Journalism Educators), "Honorable Mention General Column" TAJE and "Superior Entertainment Feature" TAJE. Not surprisingly, she will seek a Double major in Theater and Journalism as she enters college in the fall.



Natalie Leann Thi: Natalie received a \$2,500 AREA Scholarship. She is the daughter of two AAFES employees, Mihn and Nancy Thi. Natalie will enter college this fall as English major. During her high school career at South Grand Prairie High School in Grand Prairie, Texas, Natalie distinguished herself as a member of the National Society of High School Scholars, as a member of the National Honor Society and as a Graduating Texas Scholar. She is also listed in Who's Who Among American High Schools Students. Additionally, Natalie found time to volunteer at the Boys and Girls Club of Grand Prairie.



Brian Seo: Brian, son of Bernard and Myong Trombley, received a \$2,500 AREA Scholarship. Brian will enter college this fall as a Pre-Med Biology major. At Leavenworth High School in Leavenworth, Kansas, Brian was twice recognized as a Kansas Horizon Scholar, was a member of the National Honor Society and is listed in Who's Who Among American High School Students/Athletes. He was president of his high school's SADD chapter and president of the debate team. Brian, as a member and coach of school swim team, medaled at the state championship and was runner up at the state swim finals two other years.



Christopher Giuffreda: Christopher, the son of Joseph and Diane Giuffreda, received a \$1,000 Area Scholarship. Christopher will major in Electrical Engineering as he enters college this fall. While at Flower Mound High School in Flower Mound, Texas, Christopher was a member of the National Honor Society, took second place in statewide German competition and had his literary prowess recognized by "Flower Mound Literary Competition" with the publication of his original short story. As a member of the football team, he was listed as an All State Second Team Academic and was a member of his school's varsity soccer team. Christopher was also very active in his church and community. He participated in a mission to Mexico and volunteered as an "Athlete For Literacy: Reading to Elementary Students In The Community".



Cody James Wigness: Cody, the son of Jeffery and Jeannette Wigness, will enter college this fall as Journalism major. Cody was awarded a \$1,000 Area Scholarship. While a Waynesville High School student in Waynesville, Missouri, Cody was a member of the National Honor Society and listed on the “A” Honor Roll. Cody was very active within his church community. He was a vacation bible school teacher, a member of the church youth group and was a weekly presenter at church services.



Andrea Norton: Andrea is the daughter of Gordon and Lynn Norton. Andrea, recipient of a \$1,000 Area Scholarship, enters college this fall as an English Education major. She distinguished herself during her Ayer Middle/High School years in Ayer, Massachusetts as a seven semester Honor Roll member, a National Honor Society member and in the AAFES Martin Luther King Essay Contest, where she received honorable mention. Andrea was a member of her school band, its chorus and volunteered on the “Walk For Breast Cancer” events and “Relay – For Life” Cancer Society events.



Michael Weaver: Michael received a \$1,000 Area Scholarship. He is the son of Andrew and Melissa Weaver. Michael was an active member of his Edward S. Marcus High School JROTC program in Flower Mound, Texas. He received the “Outstanding Cadet” national JROTC award and was Deputy Group Commander of the school’s JROTC program in his senior year. Michael was also very active in the Boy Scouts. He was a “Senior Patrol Leader” and received the “Life Scout Award” from the Boy Scouts of America.



Justin Eckert: Justin is the son of William Eckert and Diana Poulson. Justin enters college this fall seeking a degree in Food Service Technology. Justin, a \$1,000 Area Scholarship recipient, was a member of the National Society of High School Scholars and a member of the Public Speaking Honor Society during his James W. Martin High School years in Arlington, Texas. Justin was active in school activities as a member of the Choir, Spanish and Key Clubs and “Martin Players” (Drama Club).



Nicholas L Hunt: Nicholas, the son of William and Bobbie Hunt, will enter college this fall as Engineering major. Nicholas received a \$1,000 Area Scholarship. At Leavenworth Senior High School in Leavenworth, KS, Nicholas was listed in “Who’s Who in Leadership – United States Achievement Academy”, was a National Scholar – State of Kansas and was listed on the school Honor Roll. He was also a member of the basketball and track teams and a member of “People of All Colors Service Club”.



Tori Stillman: The daughter of Spencer and Linda Stillman, Tori was awarded a \$1,000 Area Scholarship. Tori will major in Economics as she enters college this fall. Tori was a “High Honors Member” at Robert Louis Stevenson High School in Pebble Beach, California. She was a member of the varsity track and diving teams and a radio station intern. Tori volunteered at the “Community Hospital of Monterey Peninsula” and was a member of “Student Volunteers Program” around the community of Seaside, Ca.



Karen Kuhlman: Karen, the daughter of David and Kathy Kuhlman, received a \$1,000 Area Scholarship. Karen will major in Commercial Photography as she enters college this fall. During her high school career at Northmont High School in Clayton, Ohio, Karen was a member of the Northmont High School Honor Society and recognized as the NJROTC Distinguished Cadet. She was a member of the varsity bowling team and a member of her school’s concert band. She was also a Youth Group Leader at her church, a Civil Air Patrol Cadet and a Humane Society volunteer.



Sara Trowbridge; Sara is the daughter of Robert Thackett. Sara received a \$1,000 Area Scholarship. While at Edwardsville Senior High School in Edwardsville, Illinois, Sara was a member of the National Honor Society, the marching band and Student Venture. She was president of the “Drug and Alcohol Free Group”. She was very involved in her church having taken two mission trips to help improve homes in impoverished areas and she was actively involved with vacation bible study groups.



Nicholas Ryan Byrd: Nicholas received a \$1,000 Area Scholarship. He is the son of Ricky and Carolyn Byrd. While at Robert Service High School in Anchorage, Alaska, Nicholas earned a University of Alaska/Anchorage Scholar award and was a member of the National Honor Society. He was also a member of the Key Club and Technology Student Association.