

HOWARD A. LATTA SCHOLARSHIP FUND, INC.

A NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANIZATION

NEWSLETTER

FALL 2015

LATTA FUND LOSES A CHAMPION

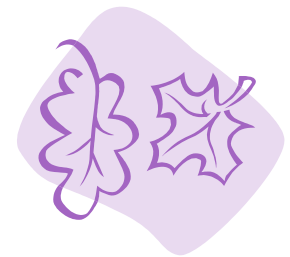
The Latta Fund has lost one of its biggest supporters with the death of Jim Shapleigh on February 20, 2015. Having spent his entire teaching and counseling career in the Webster Groves schools, in his later years he continued his service through volunteering and holding positions on the Latta Board of Directors, including President of the Board from 1998 to 2009.

Jim developed his love for Webster Groves schools as a student, graduating from WGHS in 1944. After studying at Princeton, he tried his hand at some non-educational pursuits such as selling vacuum cleaners door to door. He began volunteering at the YMCA and realized then that working with youth should be his life. After graduating from Washington University, he began his career at WGHS and later served as assistant principal of Hixson Junior High School and then as principal. Along the way he received his master's degree in administration and years later a second master's in counseling.

According to Jim's wife Sue, Jim was always "a company man," meaning that the success and welfare of Webster schools and their students were uppermost in his mind throughout his life. When asked the secret of working with students, he would say, "You have to like kids, and you have to be fair." Jim's philosophy was a positive influence on many students from the 50's all the way up to 2012 as he volunteered and tutored after his official retirement from the district in 1992. Among many awards bestowed on Jim was the "Heart of Gold" award from the Webster Groves-Shrewsbury Chamber of Commerce for his many years of volunteering. A conference room in the new wing of the high school has been named in Jim's honor.

"Jim loved the Latta Fund," said Mrs. Shapleigh in a recent interview. One reason was his respect and admiration for Howard Latta himself. Among Jim's tireless efforts to seek support for the fund was his custom of attending class reunions to suggest to alumni that they donate their extra money to the Latta Fund after their expenses were met. On a personal level, it was not unusual for Jim to take an interest in some recipients of the Latta scholarships and follow them through their university careers and beyond.

It is fitting to note that many donations were received by the Latta Fund in memory of Jim. He would be pleased that the good work he espoused so enthusiastically will continue for many years.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

MEET THE 2015 RECIPIENTS	2-4
OUR SPECIAL THANKS	4
BOARD MEMBERS & CONTACT INFORMATION	4

COMING NEXT ISSUE:

EUGENE ROBERT (BOB) EASTIN
TOP TEN REASONS TO DONATE TO THE LATTA SCHOLARSHIP FUND
NEW LATTA LOGO

MEET THE 2015 RECIPIENTS



Alexis Burke - Ripon College

Alexis Burke is at Ripon College in Wisconsin, hoping to pursue her interest in business marketing. She said "Without scholarship money, college would have been next to impossible for my family to finance. A few of my favorite teachers from WGHS would have to be Mr. Dunn and Mr. Cole. They were able to motivate me and push me towards success. They made learning enjoyable, something every teacher should strive for. I'm grateful for everything I learned from them because I know I'll be able to use those tools in life and my professional career. I am lucky enough to continue my basketball career at Ripon, and this wouldn't have been possible without the help from the Howard Latta Scholarship. Go Red Hawks!"



Gina Cherian - Missouri State

Gina Cherian is currently at Missouri State University in Springfield, MO, concentrating on biology, although undecided as to her eventual career path. She attributes her love of biology to her high school teacher, Miss Regina Lindsey-Lynch whose classroom truly sparked her interest in that field and she **very** much appreciated Ms. Nedra Clark as the teacher who "supported her in every way" and encouraged her throughout her high school years. Gina said that the Latta Scholarship was particularly helpful in paying for her books, which were extremely costly.



Maeve Dolan - Missouri State

Maeve Dolan headed to Springfield to attend Missouri State University where she is majoring in Interior Design. Cathy Dolan, Maeve's mother, stated "This generous award had a huge impact on Maeve's ability to attend the college of her choice, and provided the funds to cover the majority of her room and board, which in turn allowed her all the benefits and life-changing experiences that come with going away to college! Thank you so much, not just for your generosity, but for setting the example, year after year, of paying it forward."



Merrill Frazier - University of Missouri

Merrill Frazier worked three jobs during her senior year at WGHS to save money for her college years at the University of Missouri. Her parents, Bruce and Terri Frazier, feel that being a scholarship winner showed Merrill that all her efforts were worth it. She is currently maintaining a 3.8-4.0 grade point average.



Sydney Greer - University of Missouri

Sydney Greer is currently at Mizzou in the Pre-Med path. She started with bio-chemistry major, but is planning on switching to Psychology. She is taking 12 hours of science courses and said she feels Webster Groves High School prepared her well for those courses, especially Mr. Dunn and Mrs. Ahern. Sydney's mother wrote, "The scholarship money has been very helpful. It has reduced some of the financial stress with the college payments. Thanks so much!!"



Lukas Heading - University of Missouri

Lukas Heading entered the University of Missouri with 20 college credits and is now in a work study program in the Engineering School. Susan Murphy, Lukas' mother, stated "Thanks to organizations like yours, Lukas is attending college, and just last weekend told me is already looking into the masters program."



Abigail Kessler - Taylor University

Abigail Kessler is studying professional writing at Taylor University. In January she plans to travel with the Honors Program to Italy. Abbie's mother, Sara Kessler, stated "We are grateful that the scholarship provided by the Latta Scholarship has allowed her to attend the school of her choice."



Holly Kleinschmidt - Saint Louis University

Holly Kleinschmidt is attending Saint Louis University Honors College, majoring in biochemistry. Sheila Kleinschmidt, Holly's mother said "The Latta Scholarship was a great help in allowing Holly to attend SLU and not be burdened with a huge loan. She is very grateful to have received it."



Stacey Lambkins - University of Central Missouri

Stacey Lambkins is attending the University of Central Missouri without having to take on a considerable amount of student loans, according to her mother, Pamela Lambkins. "We were so overwhelmed when we opened the envelope and saw the amount of the award that Stacey received. We were overjoyed! The amount of the Latta Scholarship was exactly what she needed to pay for her first semester. Thanks again for helping Stacey reach her dreams!"



Alison Morr - Bradley University

Alison Morr is at Bradley University, enrolled in the Academic Exploration Program, which allows her to explore her area of interest for a choice of a major. She is now narrowing down that choice and hopes to have that decided by the end of spring semester 2016.



Jessica Oliphant - New York University

Jessica Oliphant is a freshman at New York University. She is majoring in International Relations and hopes to work at the United Nations some day. Jessica said "I could not be where I am today without the Latta Fund scholarship."



David Rapp - Missouri University of Science & Technology

David Rapp is attending Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla, MO. He has dual majors in Aerospace Engineering and Mechanical Engineering. He has already been chosen for an internship with the Boeing Company next summer. The Latta Scholarship is helping David reach his goal of graduating free of debt.

MEET THE 2015 RECIPIENTS, CONT'D.



Sophia Sears - University of Missouri

Sophia Sears is attending the University of Missouri in Columbia, studying Early Childhood Education. "The Latta Scholarship helped me to afford to go this wonderful school and study to one day be a teacher."



David Winstein-Hibbs - Rochester Institute of Technology

David Winstein-Hibbs is in his first year at Rochester Institute of Technology. His major is Video Game Design. By receiving a Latta Scholarship, David said that he was able to go to his dream school.

OUR SPECIAL THANKS

The Latta Board of Directors would like to extend its sincere thanks to the **WGHS CLASS OF 1963** for their help in gathering information for this newsletter.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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*2015/2016 New Member

The Latta Board currently has vacancies. If you are interested in serving, please contact Board President, Andy Throm at latta@wgmail.org or 314/963-6400, ext. 11190

CONTACT INFORMATION

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