2016 Scholarship Report at a Glance

Dozens of students will soon be getting the education they need to enter the building workforce, thanks to the funds generated through the annual Alabama Home Builders Foundation Golf Classic.

The Foundation’s scholarship committee met on April 13 and awarded $40,000 in scholarships to 60 students from across the state. Some of the trades that were supported included carpentry, HVAC, electrical technology and masonry.

The majority of the scholarship funding comes from the proceeds of the Golf Classic, which is the primary fundraiser for the Foundation. Since its inception in 1995, the Foundation has awarded over 1,000 scholarships totalling more than $532,000.

The Foundation board members recognize the importance in focusing on the skilled trades in particular as the need for them is critical for the future of our industry. According to the US Department of Labor, the average projected growth through 2024 in the trades is over 12%. Most professions can expect less than 6% growth in that same period. There is a demand for the skilled trades and our opportunity and challenge is to meet it.

Designated Scholarships Awarded

The Foundation’s scholarship committee had over 130 scholarship applications to evaluate for scholarship support. During the extensive review process, ten student applications stood out as being ideal candidates to receive one of the following designated scholarships.

Aubrey E. Buchalter and Barbara H. Buchalter Designated Scholarships:
- Alex Kirkland – Junior at the University of Alabama studying construction management
- Benjamin Powell – Freshman at the University of Alabama studying civil engineering

Bentley Owens Designated Scholarship:
- Matthew Holland – Senior at Gadsden State studying electrical technology

Malone McQueen Designated Scholarships:
- Justin Cade Mobley – Freshman at Wallace State in Dothan studying industrial maintenance
- Frank Moody – Sophomore at Auburn University studying building science
- Alden Pettway – Sophomore at Wallace State in Selma studying masonry
- Thades Rich – Freshman at Fortis studying HVAC
- Cedric Russell – Freshman at Lawson State studying plumbing

Past Presidents Designated Scholarship:
- Carson Phillips – Sophomore at the University of Alabama studying mechanical engineering

Golf Classic Raises $53,000 for Foundation

The HBAA’s Past Associates Committee Presidents, chaired by Cathy Brown of Alabama Power, organized yet another successful golf classic to benefit the Foundation. The 22nd Annual Alabama Home Builders Foundation Golf Classic, held on May 9 at Cambrian Ridge in Greenville, is the primary fundraiser for the Foundation this year, raising approximately $53,000 to go toward the scholarship fund and other Foundation initiatives.

The Foundation thanks all of this year’s golfers and sponsors, especially title sponsor Alabama Foundation Specialists (AFS) and major sponsors Alabama Power, Alagasco, Boral Building Products, Capital Growth Buchalter, Touchstone Energy Cooperatives and UBS Financial Services.

Foundation Scholarship Presented to First Female SkillsUSA AL Carpentry Contest Winner

Peggy Turner of Graphic Designs & Promotions, who is currently serving as one of the AHB Foundation Directors, recently presented a scholarship to Carly Stanford, the 2016 SkillsUSA high school division carpentry winner. Carly, who graduated from St. Clair County’s Eden Technical Center in May, is the first female in the history of SkillsUSA AL to win the carpentry contest.

- Demartae Shackleford – Freshman at Auburn University studying building science

Past Presidents Designated Scholarship:
- Carson Phillips – Sophomore at the University of Alabama studying mechanical engineering
Free Carpentry Classes Set for Shelby, Limestone Counties

Adults in Shelby and Limestone Counties will once again have the opportunity to learn skills to help them enter the homebuilding industry, thanks to a partnership between the Alabama Home Builders Foundation and local career tech schools.

The Foundation is continuing its popular basic residential carpentry certificate program this fall. The classes meet two nights a week for 8 weeks with classroom and hands-on work to give students a basic understanding of the residential carpentry field.

There is no cost to the students to attend the program, which is underwritten by the Foundation. However, there is an application process and students are selected primarily based on their interest in working in the homebuilding industry. Classes are limited to 15 students each.

The program will be offered September 27-November 15 at the Shelby County College and Career Center in Columbiana, and September 29-November 17 at the Limestone County Career Tech Center in Athens.

For information about the basic residential carpentry program or to discuss bringing a class to your area, contact Artemis Moore, AHB Foundation Director, at 1-800-745-4222 or email artemismoore@hbaa.org. You may also find details on the Foundation website, www.hbafoundation.org.

Foundation Sponsors FFA Contest

On June 7 the Future Farmers of America Alabama held their annual carpentry contest in Opelika. Eleven teams of four students each participated in the six-hour contest. The Foundation was there to lend a hand by providing judges and lunch. Pheza Sumners of Ecological Insulation and Kory Boling, HBAA Education Director, teamed up to judge the structures the competitors built.

The Future Farmers of America (FFA) is committed to the individual student, providing a path to achievement in leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. The Alabama Home Builders Foundation has, for many years, been a proud sponsor of the FFA of Alabama’s Agricultural Construction and Maintenance Career Development event awards.

Spotlight on Student Success

Kelly Kennamer
Vice President,
Ray Kennamer Construction, Inc.
Albertville, AL

My name is Kelly Kennamer. I earned a coveted AHB Foundation Scholarship throughout my four years at Auburn University. I originally went to Auburn to become an architect, but quickly realized that wasn’t my calling in life. I wanted to work in the construction industry so I changed my major to Building Science. The scholarships I received from the Foundation throughout my college career helped me achieve my goal of earning a degree in the Building Science program.

Since graduating with a Building Science degree, I’ve worked in building related industries and was offered a project manager position in my family’s construction business, Ray Kennamer Construction. I recently bought into the company and am now a shareholder/Vice President. It’s always been a dream of mine to work in the family business and now I get to do that every day.

I’ve also had the opportunity to give back to the HBAA and Foundation by serving on the board of directors for the Marshall County Home Builders Association and currently serve as its President. I recently passed the state licensing exam to receive my Home Builders License and am now certified as a lead paint renovator.

The Foundation has poured into my life in a way that I hope I can repay in some small way. The scholarships provided to students entering the building industry and related fields can be life changing and can be just the right motivation for other students to follow their dreams in the future.

Follow us on Facebook!
Be sure to “like” our page to stay up to date on the latest Foundation news, events, and ways you can help support our building industry!

www.Facebook.com/AlaHBFoundation