



COMMUNITY AND MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

www.marshfieldalumni.org

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2010 Voc/Tech Scholarship Recipient Teagan (Trentz) Seiger

Teagan (Trentz) Seiger is a 2010 Marshfield graduate and was the recipient of both the Johansen Family and the Dean and Dixie Sheldon Vocational/Technical scholarships. We caught up with Teagan recently at her workplace in a North Bend salon and talked to her about her career as a hair stylist.

Teagan told us she knew early on that she wanted a career in cosmetology. She went along when her mom got haircuts and loved everything about being in the salon. She was deeply attracted by a career that allowed her to use her creative talents to help people look their best and feel better about themselves.

After graduating from Marshfield, Teagan enrolled in the Springfield College of Beauty where she rotated through a series of curriculum units on chemistry, skin conditions, disinfecting and sterilization techniques, legal requirements and electricity. Teagan spent over eleven months completing her program and, in October of 2011, passed her state boards to become a licensed hair stylist.

A few months after earning her license, Teagan joined her husband, who was then stationed on an army post in Germany. The couple spent the next

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Teagan (Trentz) Seiger, MHS Class of 2010

MHS Community & Memorial Scholarship program Look How Far We've Come In 20 Years!

The MHS Community & Memorial Scholarship program was established in the early 1990's and operates under the auspices of the Coos Bay School Board. The bylaws govern a Selection Committee who works with the MHS scholarship coordinator to evaluate about 80 applications each year and determine awards based on established criteria.

The Scholarship Committee administers scholarship funds from 2 main sources:

Pass-Through scholarship funds – Individual or corporate donors provide funds annually, with or without criteria attached, and rely on the Selection Committee to select recipients.

Scholarship Endowments – Donors who contribute a minimum of \$12,500, determine the criteria and are given the opportunity to name the permanently endowed scholarship.

A third source of scholarship funds, is from donor sources who administer

their own scholarship monies to MHS grads, but rely on the Selection Committee to coordinate applications and assist in the selection process.

Prior to the establishment of the MHS Community & Memorial Scholarship program, all MHS scholarship awards were of the pass-through variety. Since its establishment, the endowments and scholarship awards have grown in size and number as shown in the chart below.

There have been 6 endowments established in the last 12 months. Four

were established in the memory of a person/family, at the minimum amount of \$12,500, with the total representing several smaller contributions over a period of 2-3 years. One was a single \$25,000 contribution by an individual MHS alumnus and the most recent was the nearly \$500,000 contribution from the estate of a local couple that established a scholarship in their name.

For a detailed look at all MHS endowed scholarships and previous editions of the MHS Scholarship newsletter, go to: www.marshfieldalumni.org

	1995	2015
ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED	6	53
TOTAL ENDOWED FUNDS	135,000	3,277,926
TOTAL ENDOWED AWARD AMOUNTS	6,750	121,800
TOTAL PASS-THRU AWARDS	21,000	29,900
TOTAL AWARDS FROM OUTSIDE GROUPS	5,000	84,000
TOTAL AWARDS	\$32,750	\$ 235,700



Spotlight on 2009 MHS Scholarship Recipient Geoff Van Pulliam

Geoff Van Pulliam, class of 2009, is currently a software engineer for Cadwell Laboratories in Kennewick, Washington. Geoff attended Oregon Institute of Technology (OIT) after graduating from MHS. Four years later Geoff graduated from OIT with degrees in Software Engineering and Applied Math. The math degree wasn't originally in Geoff's plans, but he is glad he put in the extra effort to obtain it since it has allowed him greater professional flexibility.

At Cadwell Laboratories, Geoff works in teams of four to six people. His primary assignment has been on Cadwell's Cascade intraoperative neuromonitoring (IONM) systems that are used in general spine and cranial surgical procedures. These devices monitor patients' neurological status. Geoff enjoys working in small teams and learning about the medical procedures themselves. Geoff is currently involved in developing a new generation of IONM systems.

While at MHS, Geoff enrolled in Fred Hunt's information technology (IT) classes. He is grateful for the experiences Fred provided his students. Geoff fondly remembers the LAN parties he arranged for students and school district IT staff. The parties, while fun, were also valuable experiences that gave Geoff the opportunity to interact with IT professionals.



Geoff Van Pulliam, MHS Class of 2009

MHS Scholarship Committee Members

Jennifer Bunnell MHS '85
 Chuck Carlbom MHS '52
 Les Engle MHS '62
 Jay Farr MHS '69
 Gary Gehlert MHS '60
 Jennifer Groth
 Travis Howard
 Kirk Johansen MHS '67
 Amy Day Larson MHS '87
 Lou Leberti MHS '65
 Robert Mahaffy MHS '65
 Candace McGowne MHS '91
 Caddy McKeown MHS '70
 Jay Messerle
 Kara Moore MHS '97
 Arnie Roblan
 Anna Schep MHS '69
 Cap Sharples
 David Smith MHS '56
 Gina Sutherland
 John Sweet
 John Whitty MHS '50

Newsletter Staff

Les Engle, '62, *Chair*
 Jennifer Groth, *Contributor*
 Cap Sharples, *Contributor*
 Gina Sutherland, *Contributor*

Fred also offered important educational guidance. When Geoff was trying to decide where to attend college, Fred told him that OIT had a good program that would help him reach his career goals. Fred was right; Geoff says that OIT gave him an excellent education and career opportunities.

Speaking of guidance, Geoff is also thankful to his ASPIRE advisor Don Blum. Don helped Geoff with scholarship applications. Without Don's assistance, Geoff isn't sure he would have applied for scholarships.

Geoff was awarded \$3,000 in scholarships by the MHS Scholarship Committee. Geoff states that the scholarship money helped him pay off the loan he took out his freshman year

to attend college. Geoff says that he was fortunate in that he was able to obtain a paid internship with Cadwell Laboratories during the summer after his freshman year. Due to his good effort and ability, he was able to also have that internship after his sophomore and junior years. Those internships had the additional benefit of leading to his current job.

The scholarship, financial aid and his internships allowed him to graduate debt free. Geoff knows he is fortunate, since many other graduates have large amounts of debt. While Geoff is fortunate, he has made much of his own good fortune by being motivated to use his abilities and by taking advantage of the opportunities available to him.

Marshfield Community and Memorial Scholarship Fund Website

The website serves as a resource for Marshfield High School seniors to access over \$230,000 in scholarships and lists over 60 different scholarships and their criteria. The website also provides information on how to contribute to the Marshfield Community and Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The website also has links to current and past Scholarship Fund newsletters which feature scholarship recipients, donors and members of the Marshfield staff. Additional web page tabs include Marshfield's Hall of Fame Inductees, Distinguished Alumni, class reunion information and information about Heritage Hall.



Visit our website at: www.marshfieldalumni.org



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Laicie (Olson) Heeley—Nuclear Arms Policy Expert

Laicie Olson graduated from Marshfield High School in 2002 and is now, a mere thirteen years later, working as a nuclear weapons and defense policy expert in Washington, DC. Laicie works with a nonprofit group promoting international peace and security. She spends her days researching, writing articles detailing her research findings and, also, occasionally appearing as a commentator on television news broadcasts. Laicie's work has appeared in *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Foreign Policy*, and on CNN.

Laicie credits her time in Jerry Kotsovos' history class for guiding her to her current career. "I didn't realize it then, but Jerry's class changed my life... I was sitting in my first undergraduate political science class when I heard Jerry's voice in my head, egging me on. I knew then what I really wanted was to go back to his class and learn more. I changed my major to political science and never looked back."

Laicie earned her B. A. in political science from George Washington University and an M. A. in international relations from St. Mary's University. As Laicie worked toward her master's



Laicie (Olson) Heeley, MHS Class of 2002

degree, she completed a series of internships and then joined a nonprofit agency with a focus on national security. While there, she served on the independent Sustainable Defense Task Force, a group formed by bipartisan Congressional request to investigate possible avenues for reducing defense department spending as a part of an overall federal deficit reduction effort.

In describing her professional life, Laicie says, "Working in Washington, DC is both incredibly challenging and incredibly rewarding. The opportunities available to someone with a degree in political science are so vast. If you'd have told me as a budding political science major that I'd have the opportunity to attend meetings at the White House or appear as an expert on the news, I'd

have probably laughed. But here I am. I feel so lucky to have had the opportunities I have. With that said, I'm far from the only person with a political science degree in this town – quite the opposite. And the competition is fierce. The job can be surreal, but it can also be draining to keep up."

Her advice to someone wishing to follow her career path is

simple and familiar: "Work hard, don't do drugs. That's a cliché, but really – they'll ask about past drug use if you need to get a security clearance, even for an internship. And if you're truly passionate about political science, international affairs, or any major policy issue you think you'd like to build a career around, come to DC (even for a semester) and take advantage of the incredible internship opportunities here. If you decide to pursue a career in the city after college, you'll have a leg up."

Laicie told us her goals include wanting to, "live a life that fills me up, and to retire knowing I've made some small dent in the place and the people I leave behind." She seems well on her way to doing just that.

... Teagan *(continued from Page 1)*

three years in Germany where Teagan worked full-time as a hair stylist at a salon on-post. When the couple returned to the Oregon coast in June of 2014, Teagan began looking for work in the area.

Teagan explained that hair stylists operate as independent contractors, giving them the advantage of being more mobile but also having the responsibility of finding an opening, or "a chair", available in a salon. As independent contractors, stylists pay monthly rent on their station and pay for all their own supplies. It is important that the working relationships in a salon be a good fit for all parties, Teagan emphasized—that everyone's personalities and work styles mesh well.

Luckily, Teagan was able to find just such a situation soon after moving back to Oregon. She knew the owners of Spa Culture and liked the easy-going work environment at the salon as well as its wide variety of clientele. "All ages and all types of clients come here," Teagan told us with a smile, "and

I like it that things are different here every hour of every day."

Teagan told us that she was very grateful to the donors of Marshfield Vocational/Technical scholarships. Because of the scholarships she received and being able to live with family for most of her time in school, Teagan was able to graduate from her cosmetology program with a total debt of only \$400. This gave her a huge head start in being able to move forward with her professional career without the crushing burden of debt so many college graduates face.

Teagan told us that the Marshfield scholarship program also helped her brother, Tallon, a 2008 Marshfield graduate. He used the financial assistance provided by the Sunset Chevy and the Clark-Macdonald Vocational/Technical scholarships to attend a motorcycle mechanics training school.

We're pleased to welcome Teagan back to our area and wish her well as she pursues this next chapter of her life. It's rewarding for all of us involved with the Marshfield scholarship program to know that our efforts helped her launch her career.



Thank You Notes

I want to thank you all so much for making my goals and dreams of my future become even more of a reality. I feel blessed and honored to receive this award in the name of your loved one.
— KB

Thank you for entrusting me with the Albert Prantis Memorial Scholarship. I take great pride in knowing that I have been entrusted to carry out his legacy. It is people like you that help the next generation get a jump start on a successful career and life. — JH

I am honored and humbled to receive this scholarship. I appreciate this more than you could imagine. I was having a lot of stress about paying for college, but with the help of generous scholarship, a big chunk of my stress has been relieved.
— MC

When I received the Stan and Rose Olberg Scholarship, I was ecstatic. This is almost \$4,000 out of my college tuition. It is no secret that families in the Coos Bay area don't have a ton of money. My family gets along all right, but not to the extent that we can pay for my education without taking out \$50,000 in loans. — HP

Thank you for awarding me with the F. Willis Smith Memorial Scholarship. It is an honor. This award will help me pay fees and purchase books at SWOCC, where I plan on attending for two years. My plans after are to transfer to Western Oregon University in hopes of becoming an elementary teacher. — SG

Voc/Tech Champion Spotlight Jim Rippey, President, JFR Foundation

Jim Rippey grew up in Coos Bay, Oregon, and graduated from Marshfield High School in 1949. He graduated from the University of Oregon with a bachelor's degree in business administration in 1953. One of his professors steered him to New York University, where he gained his master's degree before going to work for Merrill Lynch on Wall Street. Upon completing Merrill Lynch's training program, he returned to Oregon, and in 1962, he founded Columbia Management Company with Jerry Inskeep. In 1967, Columbia offered Oregon's first mutual fund, the Columbia Growth Fund. What started as a two-man brokerage firm became the Pacific Northwest's largest money management company. Rippey retired as president in 1999 after Columbia Management was purchased by Fleet Bank (later Bank of America). Jim and his wife, Shirley, remain active in the community and through their family foundation (the JFR Foundation) and their



active volunteer leadership, have advanced health care, children's services, and education in communities throughout Oregon. Jim & Shirley Rippey were Portland State University's 2010 Simon Benson Award recipients.

Jim says that Coos Bay was a great place to grow up. He has many fond memories of Marshfield High School and his experiences as the team manager for Pete Susick's football team and the Pirates basketball team.

Since retiring, Jim has been a dedicated advocate and philanthropist, supporting a number of nonprofits including the MHS Community & Memorial Vocational/Technical Scholarship Program. Since 2004, many MHS graduates have been given the opportunity to pursue their post high school educational goals in a Voc/Tech field, through his generous contributions to the program. "That's the future of our country; we are dependent on young people and education," Jim said of his foundation's philanthropic efforts.

MHS Endowed Scholarships

- 5 T's Scholarship
- Bay Area Sportsman's Assoc.
- Mark Beckham Memorial
- John & Dottie Bergen Memorial
- John Brands Memorial
- Del Brunell Memorial
- John Burles Memorial
- Everett & Mabelle Chamley Memorial *
- Cameron Clay House
- Cameron Clay Memorial
- Lew Davies Memorial
- Ray Davis Memorial
- Donaldson Family
- Fitzwalter Family
- Jason Forrester Memorial
- Isabell Galloway Memorial
- The Gehlert Family
- Fred Girt Memorial
- Virginia Conrad Grant Memorial
- Chet Haliski Memorial
- Dick Hanen Golf
- Mike Helfrich Memorial
- Bruce & Thelma Hoffine Memorial *

- Joycolynn & Walter Joslin Memorial
- Bette Knox-Hanen Nursing
- Eleanor & Harold Knutson Memorial
- Warren & Adaline Kolen Memorial
- Dee Littrell-Lawrence Dance/Theater Arts
- Maxine & Lyle McGuire Memorial
- Marshfield Pirate Shop
- MHS Class of 1954
- MHS Class of 1956
- MHS Class of 1962
- MHS Class of 1966
- William McLean Memorial
- Messerle Family
- Stan and Rose Olberg Memorial
- Robert Perrin Memorial
- Albert Powers Family
- Albert L. Prantis Memorial
- Steve Prefontaine Memorial
- Dorothy Irene Probst Memorial
- Aaron Roblan Memorial
- Guy Shellenbarger Memorial
- Jennielind Smith Memorial
- Stan Solomon Memorial
- John & Hazel Southam Memorial

- Paul Starkey Memorial
- Pete & Marcella Susick Memorial
- Jeff Tofflemire Memorial
- Buck & Ruby Williams Memorial

Endowed Voc/Tech Scholarships

- Carlborn Family
- Coos Bay Lions Club
- Dashney Family
- Fromm Family
- Homebuilders Association
- Johansen Family
- John and Ginger Niemeyer
- Michael L. Keiser
- Chick & Spud Kysar
- North Bend Medical Group
- Page Family
- James Rippey
- Sause Bros.
- Dean & Dixie Sheldon
- F. Willis Smith
- Stamper Family

* New Endowed Scholarships for 2015



Allison Bassett Returns To Marshfield

Allison Bassett, 2005 Marshfield graduate, returned to her alma mater in 2013 to direct the choral and theatre programs, and has made an immediate positive impact.

We asked Ms. Bassett what she remembered from her time as a student at Marshfield: "...long nights in the Drama Lab working on plays and painting sets, singing in 'the vortex' during choir rehearsals, learning to jump serve in volleyball, sliding practice in the rain for softball, and the traditions and special moments teachers and staff provided for students."



**Allison Bassett
MHS Class of 2005**

After she completed her education at MHS, Allison Bassett graduated from Eastern Oregon University with a degree in Music and Theatre, with a specific focus on Choral Conducting, Vocal Performance, and Acting. In her spare time, she was a member of their Chamber Choir, performed in twenty productions, and conducted two local choirs. She then finished a Master of Arts in Teaching degree. Ms. Bassett also met her future husband at EOU; Jeff Van Vickle is an English teacher at Marshfield.

Before returning to Coos Bay, Allison and Jeff spent time in Portland, where she was a part-time music teacher at The International School and a substitute teacher in Beaverton.

Why did she decide to return to Marshfield to teach? Ms.

Bassett says, "My experiences in the MHS choir and theatre programs were impactful and full of good memories, and I couldn't pass up being a part of that tradition and community. I am also closer to my parents and grandparents, who live in the area." She is glad to see the same traditions and many of the same great teachers roaming the halls.

Her goal for Marshfield's choral and theatre programs is to be competitive at the state level, and to strive for continuous growth in student participation. Ms. Bassett wants to give students the tools and positive experiences to become life-long connoisseurs of the arts. She has been very effective in growing these programs at the high school: the choral program has 150 students, including 30 Marshfellows – a men's ensemble she started during her first year with nine students. The theatre program has expanded from two classes to five, and from 40 students to 100 students enrolled. Even more students participate in theatre outside of regular class time, bringing the total participation in productions to 150. This level of engagement means that 30% of the student population at MHS participate in music or theatre; an impressive statistic.

In discussing current issues in arts education, Allison Bassett is excited to report that the U.S. Senate recently voted 81-17 to categorize music and the arts as "core subjects" as part of the Every Child Achieves Act. She explains this designation is a huge step forward for arts programs, and she sees many schools adding back programs that have previously been cut. She says, "It is amazing to be right in the middle of this change!"

How does a student pay for college?

In the good old days, when this writer was in college, (late 1960's), a student could get a summer job in a mill or on a fishing boat and make enough money to pay for a year of college. Those days no longer exist.

Most jobs available to young people today are minimum wage jobs. If a student is lucky, she/he might be able to work full time (40 hours/week for 3 months) throughout the summer. In Oregon such a job would pay a student \$4,440. After taxes, the student would receive about \$3,100. This does not take into account student expenses during this time. So if a student is living with their parents and is very frugal, they might have earned \$2500 to put towards college expenses for the next school year.

College costs at a public 4-year college in Oregon will be about \$24,000/year during the 2015-16 school year which includes tuition, fees, books, and living expenses. \$2500 is way short of what is needed.



Where else can students look for financial assistance? Economically needy students can receive up to about \$5800/year from the federally funded Pell Grant. These same students can also receive an additional \$2000/year from the Oregon Opportunity Grant. The poorest students may also receive a federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant of varying amounts. SWOCC students who qualify receive \$600/year. These funds, in addition to full time summer work, still don't even cover half of the expenses at a public 4-year college in Oregon.

To make up some of the difference,

a student could work 20 hours/week during the school year. (Numerous studies have shown that working more than 20 hours/week while being a full time college student negatively affects academic performance.) At minimum wage, the student would earn \$6660 which will be about \$5000 after taxes. So, a student working full time in the summer, half time during the school year, receiving maximum federal and state grants will have accumulated \$15,300. This diligent student will still be about \$9000 short of covering one year's expenses at a public 4-year college.

How does a student afford to attend college? Some students are fortunate enough to have family resources to make up the difference. Those less fortunate must borrow. Others, through their efforts, earn scholarships that can help make up the difference. Scholarships help students bridge the affordability gap, allowing students to avoid as much debt as possible.



Once a Pirate, Always a Pirate!

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