

LSAW Foundation

Promoting and advancing the surveying, mapping and land information professions

2014 Scholarship Apps Available Now

IN THIS ISSUE:

Perspectives: 2007-2013	2
2013 Board of Directors	2
Financial Status	3
Scholarships 2009-13	4
Goals-Strategies	4
2014 Board of Directors	5

Scholarship applications for 2014 are now available for downloading from the Foundation Website. To get your application, go to <http://www.lsawfoundation.org/scholarships/scholarshipapplication.html>

Applications are available in both Microsoft Word and Adobe PDF formats. To be eligible for consideration, applications must be received or postmarked by July 15, 2014.

Mail your completed application to:

Rich Waltrip, Scholarship Chairperson, LSAW Foundation, 702 West 21st Avenue Spokane, WA 99203 (richwaltrip@gmail.com)

You are eligible to be considered for an LSAW scholarship if you are enrolled in a two-year Washington school that offers a Land Surveying curriculum, or if you are enrolled in classes in the Geomatics programs at the Oregon Institute of Technology or Idaho State University. Other restrictions may apply, see the application for details.

Along with the application form, you should also download the Application Instructions document from the website. Remember to include your college transcripts (if any) and a copy of the course curriculum of your school's surveying program. You must also sign and date your application, or it will not be considered.

Message from the 2014 Foundation Board Chair

I want to thank **John Thalacker** for serving as Board Chairman since the Foundation was formed in 2007. Over the past few years John's personal commitment and assistance has guided the organization. I also want to thank all the founding Directors for their personal commitment and support which helped to shape the Foundation while they served.

The Foundation's Board of Directors has been working on a Strategic plan for the past couple of years. We continue to review and adjust our goals yearly. One of my personal long term goals has been to build the Foundation Scholarship Award Fund to over \$250,000. Our profession needs to invest in and provide assistance for students seeking higher education. Surveying education programs all over the United States are under extreme pressure to be complete with other, and better known programs—and scholarships can help attract students and build enrollments.

I believe we are at a critical point in our profession and within higher education surveying programs across the United States. Over the past few years the economy has impacted our profession and I know all too well that the economy continues to be a problem for most of us. Nevertheless, the Foundation is committed to help students seeking financial aid and I hope you will support our efforts.

We will hold a silent auction for the first time in a long time at the LSAW Annual Conference. We are seeking donations. We will also have a raffle item again and hope you will buy tickets for the raffle and bid on silent auction items. Thank you for your support and please contact me if you have any questions or comments. —Ken Swindaman

"Our profession needs to invest in and provide assistance for students seeking higher education."

--Ken Swindaman

Foundation Perspectives 2007–2013

"It is personally gratifying to witness the expanding support and continued commitment exhibited by so many..."

--John Thalacker

In 2007 it became apparent that the 25 years of outstanding efforts to provide surveying students with scholarships by the Land Surveyor's Association of Washington Auxiliary was extremely close to having had run its course. In response, LSAW President Jim Main formed a committee and charged it with developing and establishing a scholarship program for LSAW to continue the efforts of the Auxiliary.

The seven member committee compiled Articles of Incorporation and filed as a non-profit corporation with the State of Washington in February, 2008, while simultaneously

establishing criteria for and awarding scholarships. A retroactive 501(c) 3 designation was received in 2010.

Initial and continuing Foundation activity funding has been granted annually by LSAW and the Auxiliary. This past year has seen financial support from other organizations and LSAW Chapters. The number and amounts of scholarships awarded increased to its highest level this past year. A strategic plan has been adopted by the Foundation which envisions continued and expanded activities in the future.

The Foundation Directors and officers donate their time, and receive no

reimbursement for expenses incurred while performing their duties. Their contributions and efforts have been exceptional and outstanding during the formation and initiation of the Foundation.

It is personally gratifying to witness the expanding support and continued commitment exhibited by so many individuals for providing support to our future fellow professionals.

--John Thalacker,

Founding Director, and Chairman of the Foundation Board, 2007-2013

2013 Board of Directors and Past Directors

2013 Board

John Thalacker – Chairman of the Board of Directors (2007-2013)

Ken Swindaman – Vice-Chairman (2007-2013)

Michael (Mick) Sprouffske Jr. – Treasurer (2011-present)

John (Tom) Brewster – Secretary (2013-present)

Rich Waltrip – Director (2007-present), Scholarship Chair (current)

John R Christensen – Director (2011- present)

John Thomas – Director 2013-present)

Past Members of the Board

Walter O. Dale – Founding Director, Treasurer (2007-2011)

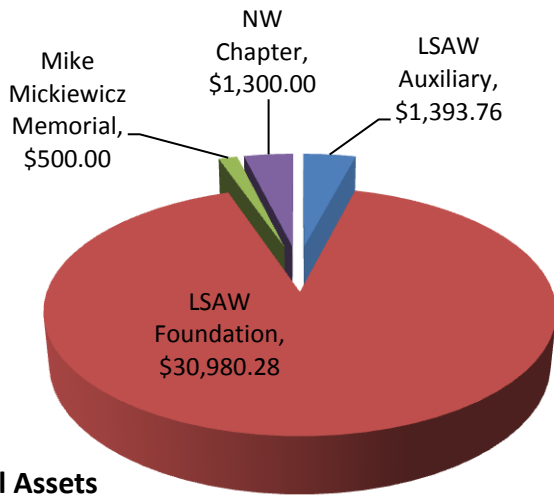
James Main – Founding Director (2007-2011)

Vicky Thalacker – Founding Director and Scholarship Chair (2007-2013)

Jon B. Purnell – Founding Director, Secretary (2007-2012)



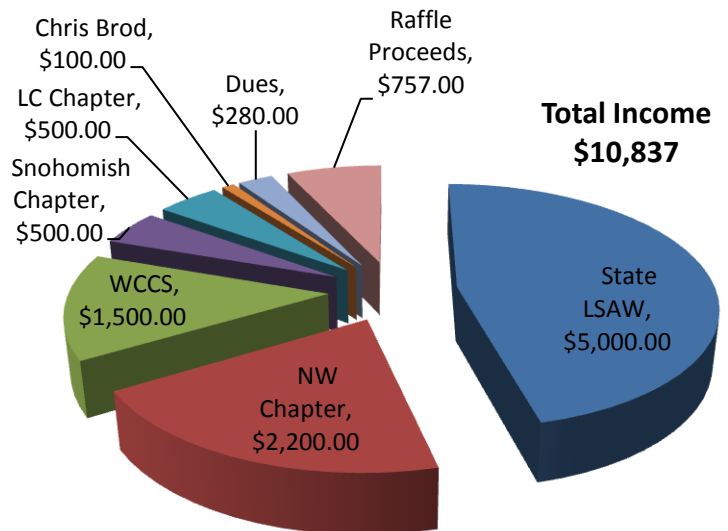
Financial Status



Total Assets
\$34,174.04

The Foundation had a total of \$34,174.04 in its accounts as of 12/31/2013. At its inception, the **LSAW Auxiliary** transferred \$14,394 to the Foundation for annual scholarship awards. \$1,393.76 remains in the LSAW Auxiliary Fund. **Snohomish chapter** of LSAW funds the Mike Mickiewicz Memorial Scholarship and \$500 remains in that account. **Northwest chapter** also funds a scholarship award; \$1300 remains in that account. Meanwhile, the **LSAW Foundation Scholarship Fund** totals \$30,980.28. That fund receives annual support from the **LSAW Board of Trustees**, and has also received contributions from the **Northeast, South Puget Sound** and **Lower Columbia Chapters**, the **Washington Council of County Surveyors** and **Chris Brod** as well as earnings from Foundation fundraising activities and membership dues.

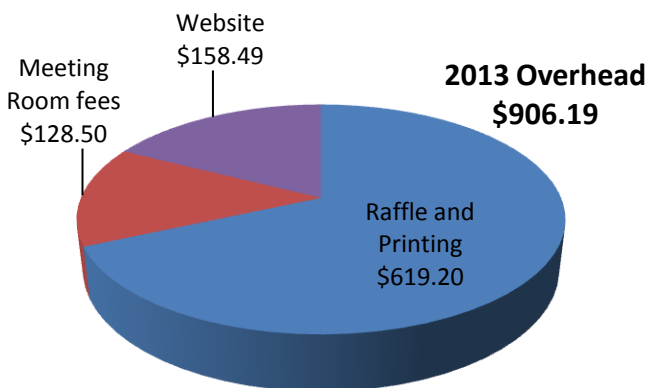
For 2013, the Foundation received a total of \$10,837 in income. Of this total, \$5000 was a contribution from the **LSAW Board of Trustees**. \$1500 from the **Washington Council of County Surveyors**, a donation of \$500 from **Lower Columbia Chapter** a \$100 gift from **Chris Brod** together with membership dues and 2013 raffle proceeds went to support the **LSAW Foundation Scholarship Fund**.



Total Income
\$10,837

Meanwhile, **Northwest Chapter** continued to support its scholarship with a \$2,200 commitment, as did **Snohomish Chapter** via a \$500 contribution.

The **Foundation Board** thanks one and all for your generous support.



2013 Overhead
\$906.19

The Foundation strives to keep overhead costs as low as possible. For instance, Board members do not receive reimbursement for mileage, lodging or meal expenses when traveling to attend Board meetings.

For 2013, only 8 cents out of every dollar donated was spent on expenses, which included \$128.50 for meeting room rental fees, \$158.49 for website hosting, and \$619.20 for commissioning a carving for the raffle and for printing costs.

Scholarship Awards 2009–2013

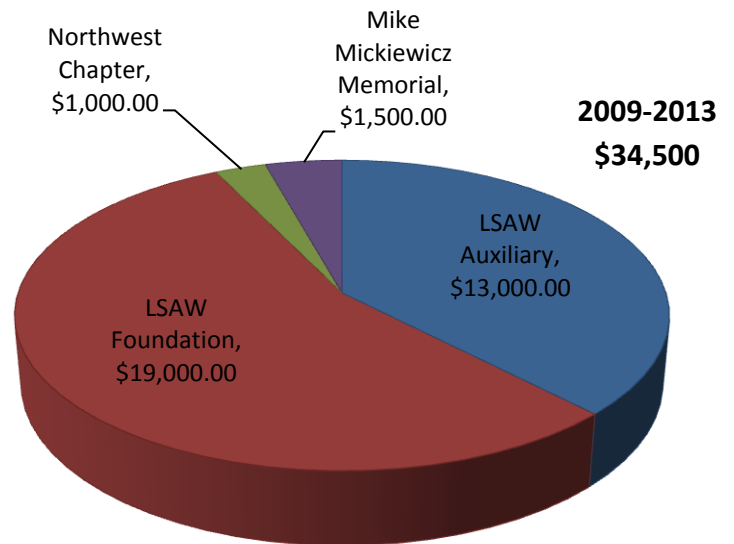
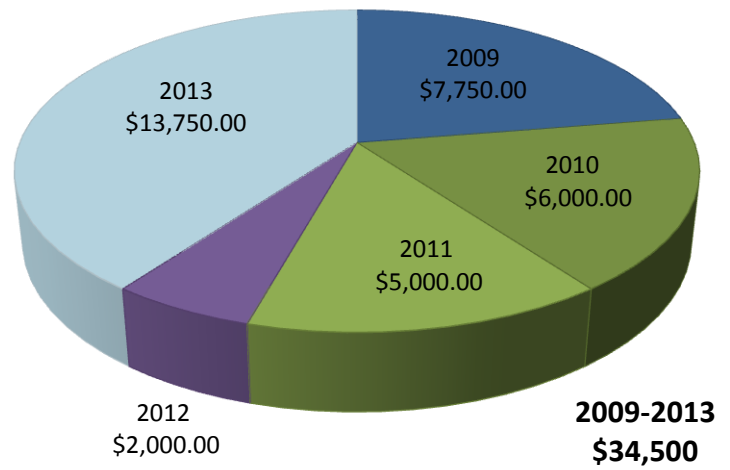
2013 was the last year for outgoing Scholarship Chairperson, **Vicky Thalaker**. Vicki served in the position from the inception of our organization and coordinated 5 years of scholarship awards. Her many years of service with the LSAW Auxillary, as well as her commitment to our mission, were instrumental in getting things off on the right foot. She is to be commended for her efforts and will be missed.

In 2013, the Foundation distributed \$13,750 in scholarships to 12 recipients attending 5 area colleges, as well as a grant to TrigStar. Since its inception, the Foundation has distributed \$34,500 in scholarships and grants. I think it is safe to say that the scholarship opportunities are now known throughout the area.

The Foundation scholarship fund continues to receive substantial financial support via grants from the **LSAW Auxiliary** and from the **Land Surveyors’ Association of Washington**. In 2013, the Foundation recieved financial support from the **Northwest** and **Snohomish Chapters of LSAW (Mike Mickiewicz Memorial Scholarship)**. The scholarship fund is also supported by membership fees and Foundation fund-raising activities. We will focus new efforts in 2014 to expand our funding resources.

--Rich Waltrip

Scholarship Awards by Year



Scholarship Awards by Source

Goals and Strategies

The overall mission of the Foundation is to **promote educational, scientific and charitable activities in the fields of surveying, mapping, and land information sciences.**

It seeks to do this by **providing financial support, in the form of scholarships and grants**, to students entering the profession and to educators and others who advance and improve the profession and its standing with the general public in the State of Washington

To make this possible, the Foundation seeks to build a self-supporting endowment that will allow it to award scholarships and grants to deserving surveying students and educational programs prepetually. If this goal is to be accomplished, a portion of the funds we receive must be saved and invested. Otherwise, the Foundation would function in a pay-as-you-go fashion and scholarship and grant awards would be vulnerable

to market conditions and totally dependent upon the continuing and continuous generosity of donors.

In its fund raising activiites, the Foundation seeks to avoid competing with other established groups such the George Walker Fund, LSAW Chapter fundraisers such as seminars, and the LSAW State Conference. This makes financial support from LSAW at the State and Chapter level essential to the Foundation’s mission.

The Board continues to develop its stategic plan, which will provide a framwork as it seeks to fulfill its mission in 2013 and beyond.

Foundation Board for 2014



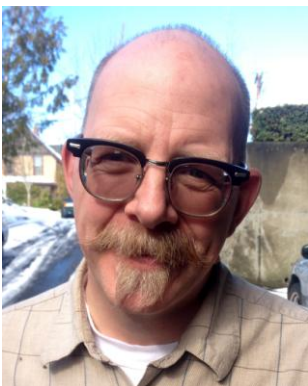
Chairman, Ken Swindaman, PLS has always supported higher education. While attending Oregon Institute of Technology he was awarded a \$500 PLSO scholarship. He understands the importance of supporting students pursuing higher education. Ken Served on the Gorge F. Walker Memorial Scholarship Fund prior to serving on the LSAW Foundation. Ken is a Principal at Apex Engineering PLLC, in Tacoma, WA. He has been licensed in Oregon since 1996, and Washington since 1997. Ken is one of the founding Directors of the Foundation and served as its Vice-Chairman from 2007-2013. He is a former president of LSAW.



Vice-Chairman, Rich Waltrip, PLS has over 30 of years experience in the land surveying profession. He has been an active member of LSAW since moving to Spokane, Washington in 1999, serving as president and trustee of the Inland Empire Chapter, as well as a director of the LSAW Foundation since it's inception in 2007 and Foundation Scholarship Committee Chair since 2013. He is licensed in and a member of professional societies for Washington, Idaho, Montana and Missouri. His professional expertise and interests include right-of-way and land title, as well as the application of advanced technologies and GIS in the practice of surveying. He received a B.S. in Geology from the University of Missouri in 1978 and completed several surveying courses at various colleges in subsequent years. Besides working for a living, he enjoys camping, hiking and playing music.



Treasurer, Michael (Mick) Sprouffske Jr., PLS is a third generation Land Surveyor. Licensed since 2002, his fulltime career started in 1989 after serving four years in the US Navy Submarine Service. He worked for several private firms in the beginning of his career including Manke Lumber Co. Mick's Public Sector employment began in 1998 with Mason County Public Works. In 2005, he moved to the Department of Natural Resources in Olympia serving as Manager of the Public Land Survey Office. In December of 2012 he transferred to the State Land Survey Unit where he is the equivalent of a DNR Region Surveyor, but is responsible for cadastral surveys for both the South Puget Sound Region as well as portions of the Pacific Cascade Region. Mick was appointed to the Foundation Board in 2011 and serves as its Treasurer. He serves on the Board because he believes in providing opportunities for students who are studying Land Surveying and Mapping. He is former president of LSAW.



Secretary, John Thomas (Tom) Brewster, PLS was born and raised in Bellingham, Washington. He enrolled in Bellingham Technical College's surveying program in 1988, after realizing that his B.A. in Philosophy from Washington University in St. Louis was not going to pay the bills effectively. Starting work as a survey technician in early 1990, he moved to Wilson Engineering in 1994, becoming their principal GPS and Hydrographic Technician. In 2001 he sat for and passed the LSIT exam, and received his professional license in 2007. He served on the Technical Advisory Board for the Surveying and Civil Engineering programs at Bellingham Technical College for twelve years, and took a leave of absence to teach there for a full year. As an instructor, he saw the impact that even a relatively small scholarship can have on a student's ability to perform and succeed. He sees his service on the Foundation Board as an opportunity to re-engage with surveying students, and perhaps help to "spread the word" about the scholarships the Foundation administers. Tom joined the Board in 2013

Foundation Board for 2014



Director, John R. Christensen, PLS began his surveying career in 1992 with the City of Moses Lake, Washington and received his professional license in 2002. John moved to Kennewick in 2008 where he is employed with the Franklin County Department of Public Works. Appointed to the Foundation Board in 2011, he is honored to be a part of its continuing efforts to assist students who are pursuing careers in surveying.



Director, John Thomas, PLS is a graduate of Oregon State University's Forest Engineering program, received his Washington license in 1978, and is also licensed in Oregon and California. After a stint with the Washington Department of Natural Resources, he worked in dredging and heavy construction from Alaska to California and later with Olson Engineering in Vancouver, Washington. John is recently retired from WSDOT as a Cadastral Surveyor. John has long participated in the TrigStar program, actively teaches Boy Scouts about land surveying through the Surveying Merit Badge, has taught GPS and Surveying Ethics courses at Clark College and, "teaches young men old-time surveying at Fort Vancouver National Park. John joined the Foundation Board in 2013 to further its mission of promoting education and providing scholarships to qualifying students. He was President of the LSAW Board of Trustees for 2012 and will serve on the LSAW Board of Trustees for one more year as Past President. John resides in Vancouver where he and, with his wife of 33 years, raised their three children.



Director, Carla Meritt, PLS has been a licensed professional land surveyor since 2003, currently holding licenses in both Washington and Oregon. She has been working in the private sector of the land surveying industry since 1995 and currently manages a division of the surveying group at MacKay Sposito in Vancouver, Washington. She has been a member of LSAW since 2003 and held various leadership positions within the organization, including Lower Columbia chapter president and trustee. She served as LSAW's liaison to the OIT Geomatics Advisory Committee from 2007-2012. Carla has been a part-time adjunct instructor at Clark College, teaching the legal description class, since 2011. She has been a member of the Clark College Survey Advisory Committee since 2007, and held the position of Advisory Committee Chair from 2010-2012. In 2012 she was appointed as LSAW's delegate to WFPS. With a background and a degree in Education, Carla is passionate about promoting recruitment and funding for students entering into the surveying profession and is looking forward to her first year serving on the Foundation Board.