

LSAW Foundation

Promoting and advancing the surveying, mapping and
land information professions

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" More than ever our profession needs your assistance promoting both our professional services and supporting our educational institutions"

--Ken Swindaman

Message from the Chair

Welcome to our sixth Annual Report, meant to provide you basic information regarding our corporate operations and provide information ensuring your donation dollars are being managed for the benefit of qualifying students who are enrolled in a Surveying degree program or certificate program.

The Foundation is managed by a seven-member Board of Directors. Each Director is appointed to a four-year term. 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.

Last year I wrote, "Surveying education programs all over the United States are under extreme pressure to increase enrollment. These programs must be competitive with other programs. As professionals, we should be setting higher standards for ensuring our profession continues and provide financial support to both students and even college programs." This statement is still true today.

Last year the Land Surveying Technician/Geospatial Science program at Renton Technical College reached out to our profession to provide financial assistance to produce a second year on-line course. The Foundation has been working with the Renton Technical College Foundation to assist with funding this effort. We are hoping to have an MOU signed soon so your donations can be routed through the Land Surveyors' Association of Washington Foundation as opposed to sending directly to Renton.

Our profession needs your assistance promoting both our professional services and supporting our educational institutions. With your financial support the Foundation can provide more impactful scholarships. There are a number of way you can provide financial assistance; become a member of the Foundation for \$35.00, a one-time or yearly donation, donation of an auction item, or simply making a CASH donation.

Another option for donation is to consider including the Foundation as part of your estate financial plan. Just like NPR or PBS, please consider a "Planned Gift". Donating a portion of your will is not only a great idea, but will allow future generations to benefit from your donated gift. We could even establish a MOU with you now for future scholarship awards. Please feel free to contact me.

I want to thank the 2017 Directors for their personal commitment and support this past year. For most of us, we feel a strong desire to support the Foundation, our profession, and our future. Students deserve our financial assistance as they prepare to become professionals.

As we enter 2018, we The LSAW Foundation, also enter our eleventh year as a corporation supporting students attending higher education programs. The LSAW Foundation, more than ever, need your financial assistance to continue our mission.

Message from the Chair

I want to thank both Jon Purnell, PLS, as our Webmaster, and Rich Waltrip as our editor for producing this Annual Report. Also, I want to thank you all for your continued financial support, but mostly for supporting our future.

Please consider a cash donation or volunteering your time serving as a Director. Thank you for your support.

Kenneth W. Swindaman, PLS

2018 Scholarship Apps Available Now!

Scholarship applications for 2018 are now available for downloading from the Foundation Website. To get your application, go to <http://www.l sawfoundation.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 June 1, 2018.

Mail your completed application to:

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

You are eligible to be considered for an LSAW scholarship if you are enrolled in a two–year Washington school that offers Land Surveying courses, or if you are enrolled in classes in the Geomatics programs at the Oregon Institute of Technology. Other restrictions may apply, see the application and instructions 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. Your application must be complete, signed and dated or it will not be considered.

New for 2018

John Abenroth Scholarship – Donations Requested



The Northwest Chapter of LSAW has established a memorial scholarship in recognition of the many contributions to the profession of Land Surveying made by John Abenroth. John served as President of the Northwest Chapter and the Land Surveyors' Association of Washington, chairman of the Western Federation of Land Surveyors, and for many years as the Treasurer of the National Society of Professional Surveyors, to name only several of his more prominent activities. A secondary education scholarship will be presented to an individual for the 2018 school year through the LSAW Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation in John's name. You may send your tax deductible contributions by check made payable to the LSAW Foundation to the Northwest Chapter Treasurer Ray Peterson at P.O. Box 31626, Bellingham, WA. 98228.

For scholarship applications and instructions, visit

www.l sawfoundation.org

LSAW Foundation on Facebook and LinkedIn



The LSAW Foundation is following suit with many similar organizations by creating a Facebook page and a LinkedIn page. We hope to use social media for networking and outreach. With Facebook in particular, we hope to assist with connecting students, educational programs and employers. We will encourage current and past awardees to post and keep us up to date on their career progress.



We encourage all Facebook and LinkedIn users to “follow”, “like” and share with others.

We are in the process of switching banks. When that is complete, we will get Donate button functional, making it easy to donate a level that works for you.

Board of Directors and Past Directors

Current Board

Ken Swindaman – Chairman (Vice Chairman 2007-2013)

Rich Waltrip – Vice Chairman, Scholarship Chair (Director 2007-2015),

Darin Deehr – Treasurer (Director 2017 –present)

Erynn Sullivan – Secretary (2016-present)

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

Carla Merrit – Director (2014-present)

Greg Brooks – Director (2015-present)

Past Members of the Board

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

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)

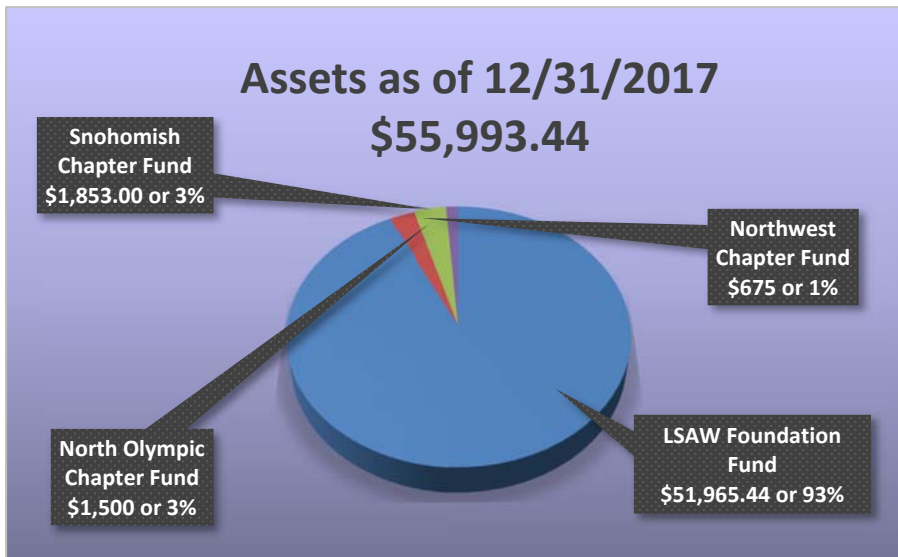
Michael (Mick) Sprouffske Jr. – Treasurer (2011-2015)

John R. Christensen – Director (2011-2016)

John Thomas – Director, Treasurer (2013-2017)



Financial Status Report



Assets

The Foundation had a total of \$55,993.44 in its accounts as of 12/31/2017.

The Snohomish Chapter of LSAW funds the Mike Mickiewicz Memorial Scholarship, contributing donating \$1000 in 2017. Currently, \$1853 remains in that account.

The Northwest Chapter funded its scholarship award with \$1200 from previous account monies. \$675 remains in that account.

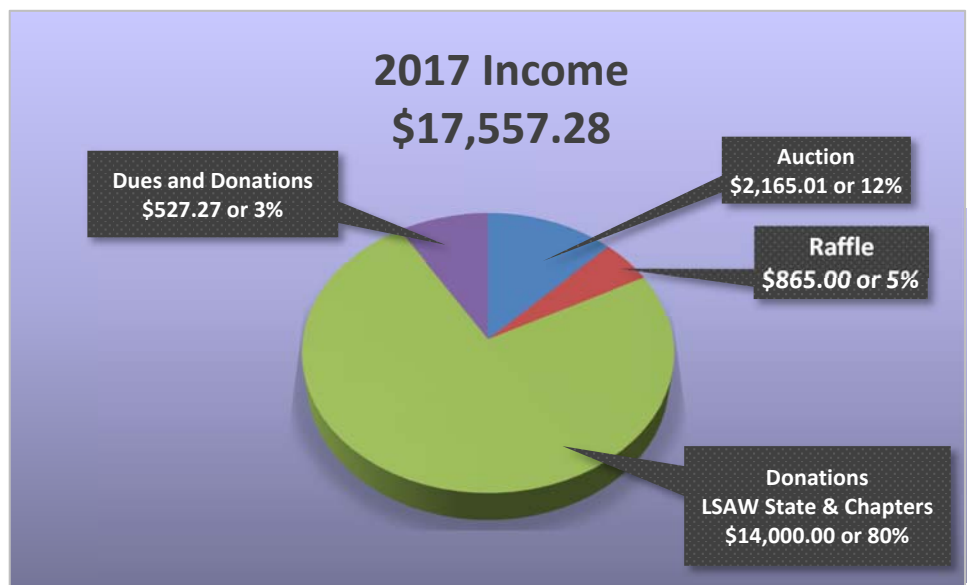
For 2017, The **North Olympic Chapter** contributed \$2500 to fund its North Olympic Surveyors' Memorial Scholarship award.

In 2017, the **LSAW Foundation Scholarship Fund** received \$7000 in support from the **LSAW Board of Trustees**, **\$1000** in support from the **Washington Council of County Surveyors**, as well as \$3557.28 in earnings from Foundation fundraising activities and membership dues.

Income by Source

In 2017 the Foundation received a total of \$17,557.28 in income. Our yearly average is just under \$15k for the last five years. Of the total, \$13,000 came from grants made by the **State LSAW**, and the **Snohomish, Southwest and North Olympic** chapters. Last year's auction earned \$2,165.15 and the raffle earned \$865.00. Dues and donations totalled \$1,527.27

We would like to highlight the **Southwest Chapter's** donation of \$2500. This is a very generous donation given that they don't have a MOU for a designated Foundation scholarship and already issue their own scholarship.

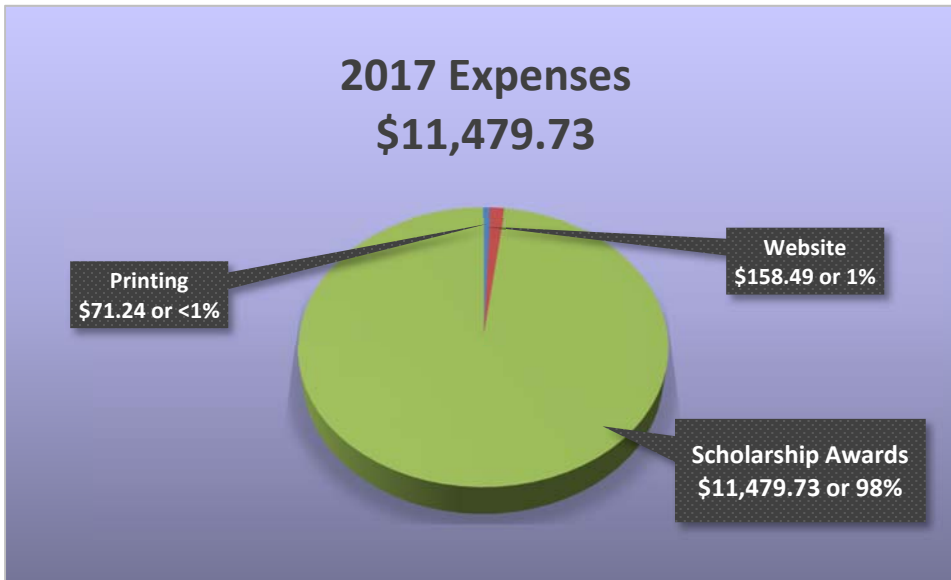


The **Foundation Board** thanks one and all for your generous and continued support.

2017 Expenses

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.

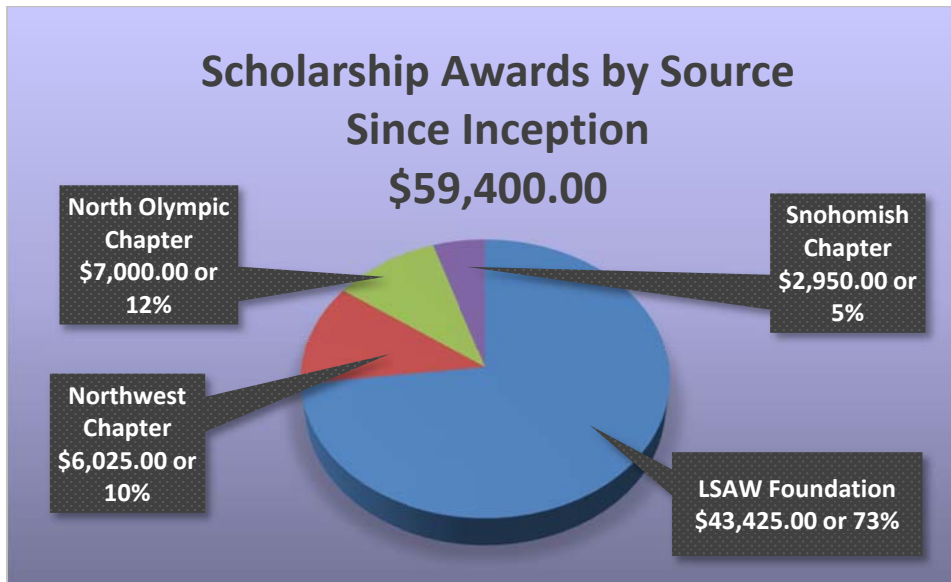
In 2017, the Foundation distributed \$11,250 in scholarship awards—this accounts for 98% of its expenses for the year. Other expenses included \$158.48 for website hosting fees and \$172.74 for printing and postage. Only 2% of its expenses went toward covering overhead costs for 2017.



Scholarships: \$11,250 Awarded in 2017

In 2017, the LSAW Foundation provided \$11,250 in scholarship awards to eleven students attending four Washington colleges and the Oregon Institute of Technology. This brings our total amount to **\$73,700 since 2009**. We are **generously supported by LSAW**, as well as through scholarships provided by the **Northwest Chapter, the Snohomish Chapter** and the **North Olympic Chapter** (North Olympic Surveyors Memorial). We are also supported by LSAW Foundation members through membership fees and donations and supported by LSAW members and vendor sponsors through the auction activities at the LSAW Annual Conference. As in previous years, we strive for balance between healthy award amounts and continued financial growth and stability.





Did you know...
your LSAW Chapter
 can sponsor a
 dedicated
 scholarship, or
 support the general
 LSAW Foundation
 Scholarship Fund?

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 **impactful** scholarships and grants to deserving surveying students and educational programs perpetually. 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 activities, the Foundation seeks to avoid competing with other established groups such as 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 revisit and revise the strategic plan each year, thereby keeping an up-to-date framework as it seeks to fulfill its mission in 2018 and beyond.

Foundation Board for 2018



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. He has been licensed in Oregon since 1996, and in 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 and Scholarship Chair, Rich Waltrip, PLS received a B.S. in Geology from the University of Missouri in 1978 and completed several surveying courses at various colleges in subsequent years. He is licensed in Washington, Idaho, Montana, Missouri and Nevada. He believes in the increasing importance of higher education for personal development, as well its benefit to the 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. Rich has served as a Director of the LSAW Foundation since its inception in 2007 and Foundation Scholarship Committee Chair since 2013. Besides working for a living, he enjoys camping, hiking and playing music.



Secretary, Erynn Sullivan's interest in surveying and land use came late, after several years working for YMCA, then in retail management for well over a decade; she enjoys the novelty and creativity involved in field surveying, and relishes working outdoors. Most days. Erynn graduated with an Associate's degree in Land Surveying from Renton Technical College in 2010, a recipient of several generous scholarships provided by the Washington surveying community. She then earned a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science from Huxley College, with the goal of delineating and mapping wetlands and streams, and a not-quite-Minor in Environmental Policy.

Erynn has served LSAW as secretary for the Snohomish Chapter, and as a member of the Annual Conference committee. In 2011, the Snohomish Chapter honored Erynn as its Associate of the Year; she also served on the first all-female Executive Committee of any LSAW chapter. She was a member of the summit team on the 2010 Mt. Rainier resurvey, sponsored by LSAW, and has given short lectures on the intersection of surveying and environmental consulting.



Treasurer, Darin Deehr, has been active in the survey industry for the last nine years. Prior to launching the land survey phase of his professional career, Darin Worked for 20 plus years as a Production Manager in the window manufacturing industry. When the building industry collapsed due to the 2007/2008 recession, Darin quickly turned the negative into a positive and seized the opportunity to go back to school and change careers. After 2 years of study Darin graduated with highest honors and received an ATA Civil Engineering Technology Degree from Centralia College. Since graduation Darin worked as a survey draftsman/survey tech in the private sector for five years and currently works for the WA State Department of Natural Resources as the aquatic research specialist in the Engineering Division, Title and Records Office. Darin is a member of the

LSAW SW Chapter where he has previously served as secretary and now has joined the board of directors of the LSAW Foundation as of 2017 where he was quickly nominated and voted in as treasurer. Darin is looking forward to working on the board of directors of the LSAW Foundation and being able to support the surveying community.

Foundation Board for 2018 continued



Director, 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



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 continued service on the Foundation Board.



Director, Greg Brooks, PLS is a graduate of California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, where he received his BS in Civil Engineering. His course studies were within the Surveying tract of the Civil Engineering program, and he has been licensed in Washington since 2008. Greg's passion for supporting education, and golf, has served him as he has been the Chairman/Organizer for the George F. Walker Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament since 2007. He has also served on the Board of Director's for the Walker Scholarship Committee for the past 4 years. Greg has been actively involved with LSAW since moving to Washington in 1998, serving for several years as the North Puget Sound Chapter Secretary, and is currently starting his 4th year as the Snohomish Chapter Treasurer – Greg was also the LSAW Associate Surveyor of the Year for 2005. Greg currently holds a position as a Senior Civil Engineering Specialist (aka Surveyor) with Seattle Public Utilities, where he started last June after 17 years in the private sector with CH2M HILL in Bellevue, WA.