

LSAW Foundation

Promoting and advancing the surveying, mapping and
land information professions

Message from the Chair

Thank you for taking the time to review the work that the LSAW Foundation has done on behalf of the Land Surveyors' Association of Washington in 2019 and a little bit of 2020. I can report that in 2019 the Foundation awarded \$11,500 of your generous contributions to nine (9) deserving students who successfully applied-for, and demonstrated the necessary commitment to receive, some of the scholarship monies you have entrusted to us. I can report that my company has recently hired one of this year's recipients who finished his course of study, thanks to the help of the LSAW, through its Foundation. I hope that many of you will someday hire one (or more) of these fine young scholars and will see your investment repaid.

The main purpose of this Message is 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 was historically managed by a seven-member Board of Directors. I am happy to report that this year we have added two Directors to the team. Directors are appointed to a four-year term, and meet two or three times a year to work on improving our scholarship application, to devise better ways to reach out to the Survey students in need of scholarship assistance, and to allocate the funds that have been entrusted to us. Board members do not receive reimbursement for mileage, lodging or meal expenses when traveling to attend Board meetings.

Our profession needs your assistance promoting both our professional services and supporting our educational institutions. With your financial support the Foundation can provide more effective scholarships to more students. 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. Please feel free to contact any LSAW Foundation Director.

Finally, as you know, the Survey Community has lost a friend and champion. Our friend John Thalacker was a founding member of LSAW, a Surveyor of the Year, and a multiple-times recipient of State and National awards of merit for his work on behalf of Surveying and Surveyors. For the Foundation, he was not only a Founder—with his beloved wife Vicky—but he was the driving force behind making this organization a solid and meaningful contributor to the future of the Surveying Profession in Washington.

IN THIS ISSUE:

Message from the Chair	1
Scholarship Apps Available	2
New for 2020	2
Board of Directors	3
Financial Report	4-5
Scholarship Report	5-6
Goals and Strategies	6
Meet the Directors	7-8

Message from the Chair (continued)

He kept us grounded, he kept us committed, and he kept us laughing. We will all miss him. I miss him now. I hope that you will honor your friend by contributing to the Foundation's scholarship funds, either in John's name, or through one of the numerous Chapter scholarships.

Thank you for your trust and confidence in us, and thank you for the opportunity to help out a little.

Thank you, John.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Brewster
2019 Foundation Chairperson

*For scholarship
applications and
instructions, visit*

www.lsawfoundation.org

2020 Scholarship Applications Available Now!

Scholarship applications for 2020 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, completed application packages must be postmarked by June 1, 2020.

Send 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 also apply, please refer to the application 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 2020

The John Thalaker Memorial Scholarship

The Northwest Chapter has initiated the John Thalaker Memorial Scholarship. In addition to the many contributions John made to the profession over his long career, he and his wife Vicki were instrumental in the creation of the LSAW Foundation. His passion for the mission of our organization was truly great. In John's honor, please consider contributing to the scholarship fund.



Contribute to the LSAW Foundation through Amazon Smile



AmazonSmile is a website operated by **Amazon** with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the **AmazonSmile Foundation** will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice. It is a small contribution for an individual purchase. But, if we can get a number of individuals to participate throughout the year, it adds up. And.....THERE IS NO COST TO YOU!

Simply type smile.amazon.com in your browser. You will be prompted to select a charitable organization from the the list of elegeible organizations. You will find the LSAW Foundation in the list. It's that easy!

Board of Directors and Past Directors

Current Board

John (Tom) Brewster – Chair

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

Darin Deehr – Treasurer (Director 2017 –present)

Erynn Sullivan – Secretary (2016-present)

Ken Swindaman – Director (Vice Chair 2007-2013, Chair 2014-2019)

Carla Merrit – Director (2014-present)

Greg Brooks – Director (2015-present)

Tom Barger – Director (2019-present)

Kevin Carlascio – Director (2019-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) Sprouffscke Jr. – Treasurer (2011-2015)

John R. Christensen – Director (2011-2016)

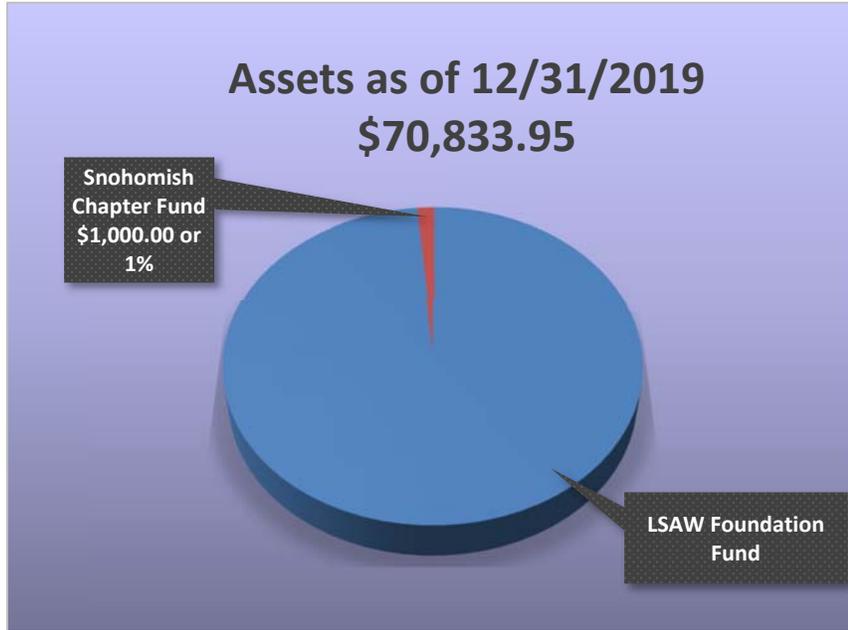
John Thomas – Director, Treasurer (2013-2017)



Financial Status Report

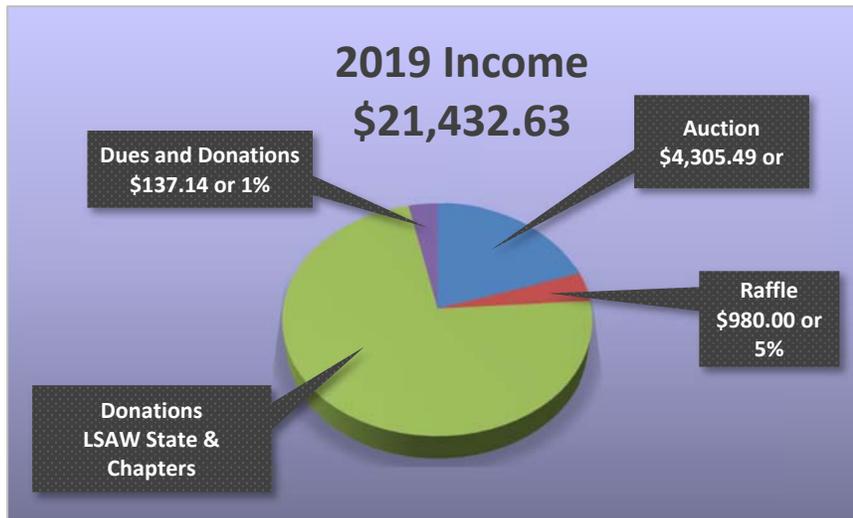
Assets

The Foundation had a total of \$70,833.95 in its accounts through year-end 2019. We have placed \$40,000 of these funds in moderately conservative mutual funds.



Income by Source

Our yearly average income continues to be approximately \$15k (looking back 5 to 7 years) with some growth. In 2019, the **LSAW Foundation Scholarship Fund** received \$14,000 in support from the **LSAW Board of Trustees** (intended to cover 2019 and 2020). Additional income includes **\$1000** in support from the **Snohomish Chapter**, a donation of **\$1000** from the **Lower Columbia Chapter**, as well as \$5,432.63 in earnings from Foundation fundraising activities and membership dues.



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

2019 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 2019, the Foundation distributed \$11,500 in scholarship awards—this accounts for 99% of its expenses for the year. Other expenses included \$170.69 for website hosting fees. Only 1% of its expenses went toward covering overhead costs for 2019.



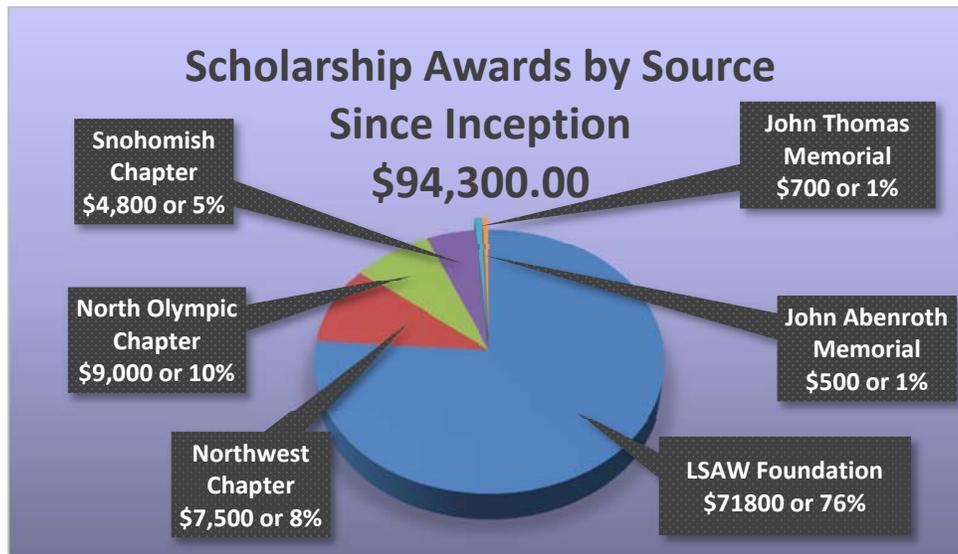
Scholarships

2019 Scholarship Awards

In 2019, the LSAW Foundation provided \$11,500 in scholarship awards to nine students attending four Washington colleges. This brings our total amount to **\$94,300 since 2009**. We are **generously supported by LSAW**, as well as through scholarships and contributions provided by the **Northwest Chapter**, the **Snohomish Chapter**, the **Southwest Chapter**, the **Lower Columbia Chapter** and the **North Olympic Chapter**. 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.



Scholarships Awarded Since Inception



Chapter leaders, if your Chapter has yet to make contribution, please consider a dedicated scholarship or yearly support for 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

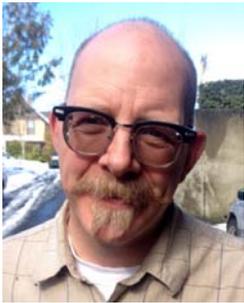
To make this possible, the Foundation seeks to build a self-supporting endowment that will allow it to award **impactful** scholarships and grants to deserving surveying students and educational programs perpetually. If this goal is to be accomplished, a portion of the funds we receive must be saved 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 2020 and beyond.

Foundation Board for 2019



Chair, 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.



Vice-Chair 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.

Foundation Board for 2019 continued



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 6th 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 in June of 2015, after 17 years in the private sector with CH2M HILL in Bellevue.



Director, 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. He served as its Vice-Chair from 2007-2013 and Chair from 2019-2019. He is a former president of LSAW.



Director, Kevin Carlascio, LSIT has served as the South Central Region Survey Supervisor at Washington State Department of Transportation for ten years and been with the department for fourteen. Kevin, joined his alma mater in 2009 as an adjunct instructor at Yakima Valley College, YVC. Instructing classes such as; MicroStation, InRoads, OpenRoads, Plane, Intermediate, Advanced Survey and STEM Undergraduate Research classes. Also has served on the YVC education advisory board for eight years where they recently, unanimously approved adding 14 credits for survey classes to the Land Survey and Construction Design program. Throughout Kevin's sixteen year long career in Land Surveying he had worked in the private sector, been involved in various organizations, chapters and committees and currently the treasurer of his local LSAW chapter. While Surveying is his professional addiction, Kevin's personal time includes relaxing; swimming, hiking, mountain biking and restoring classic VWs with his wife Stacy of 23 years and their four children. Like any good surveyor passing on the legacy by pointing out every section corner and bench that he has ever occupied during family road trips, outings and vacations.



Director, Thomas S. Barger, Jr., PLS is the Chief Surveyor for Seattle Parks and Recreation and a Senior Survey Manager with over 37 years of surveying field and office experience throughout the Pacific Northwest and the Lower Hudson Valley of New York. Tom has been a member of LSAW since 1993, leading the North Puget Sound Chapter as president from 2015-2019, chairing the NATRF 2022 Task Force, Liaison to both the DNR Survey Advisory Board and the WA Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors and is the 2018 LSAW Surveyor of the Year. Tom's support for education includes volunteer work in middle and high school presentations, founding the CORSE-Council on Remote Sensing Education (now TwiST-Teaching with Spatial Technology) teachers award program as the chair of Washington State Section of ACSM, joining the Renton Technical College Survey Advisor Board (1998-2002), volunteer judging the Land Surveying award for Future City-Washington with NCEES/LSAW sponsorship and encouraging educational pathways into the Geospatial Sciences for administrators, teachers and students with the help of "Get Kids Into Surveying" and "Mini-Mapmakers".