

Pendleton Foundation Trust - 2007 Donors / June 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007

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Pendleton Foundation Trust

Donations Make a Lifetime Impact



Tiah Pahl

If you have ever wondered if your Pendleton Foundation Trust contributions make an impact to our community, all you have to do is look at the positive impact the Ole Groupe Memorial Scholarship has had on Pendleton High School students. The Ole Groupe Memorial Scholarship is awarded each year to support a Pendleton High School student to attend the Future Farmers of America Convention in Washington D.C. This week long conference allows student to develop their speaking and presentation skills. It also helps students establish lifelong relationships with other agriculture students from across the country. This award has been presented each year in memory of Ole Groupe. Ole tragically died while mountain climbing on Mount Hood. Ole loved life, loved the outdoors and had a close bond with nature and animals. The Ole Groupe Scholarship allows a PHS student to pursue their goals in

agriculture with a focus on future career possibilities in agriculture and animal science.

Tiah Pahl was the 1999 recipient of the Ole Groupe Scholarship. She attributes her love of animals and animal welfare to her involvement with FFA. Tiah is a 2002 graduate of Pendleton High School; she attended Oregon State University and graduated in animal science. In 2006, she was accepted into the College of Veterinary Medicine at OSU and is on track to graduate in 2010. Tiah was a 2004 Pendleton Round Up Princess.

Tiah credits the Old Groupe Scholarship with opening doors and allowing her to see many aspects of agriculture in our area, our lives and our community. Tiah credits the Pendleton FF A chapter with giving her the opportunity to develop her leadership and communication skills that have prepared her for her future in small animal veterinary. Tiah values the networking and personal relationship she has developed through FFA. When she got to OSU, she already knew many of the faculty, and already had established friendships with other students, thus making her transition much easier.

The Ole Groupe Scholarship, a wonderful example of how all of our donations to the Pendleton Foundation Trust help our local students, our community and our local heritage.

Two New Scholarships Offered

For the first time, the Pendleton Foundation Trust will offer two \$2500 scholarships to two P.H.S. seniors in the spring of 2008. It was the feeling of the members of the P.F.T. board of directors that there are so many outstanding students who are qualified to win scholarships and not enough scholarships are being offered. Board members decided to offer this financial assistance to some of these seniors to help further their education.

Applications are due April 1, 2008. They may be obtained from the P.H.S. Counseling Center or on line at www.pendletonchamber.com/community/trust or www.pendletonchamber.com. Click link at bottom of home page for Pendleton Foundation Trust. They are also available on the P.H.S. website. The applications include the Pendleton Foundation Trust Fisk Award for a \$5000 scholarship.

These scholarships are being offered because of the generosity of the many people who have given to the Pendleton Foundation Trust. They have cared about Pendleton and its future and the board felt that our youth is the future of our community. Interest from the principal of our investments will provide money for these scholarships.

Winter 2008

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2007 Donors

City Appreciates Foundation’s Support

The year was 1939 when the Pendleton Foundation Trust gave the first grant to the City of Pendleton. Since that year, 132 grants have been awarded for the City Parks and Recreation.

In 1986, \$10,000 was granted to complete the River Parkway. In 1989, \$28,250.00 was granted to purchase and install an air-conditioning system to the Vert. A sound system for the Convention Center was purchased for \$38,5000 in 1991. In 1999, \$30,000.00 was given to McCune Center for renovation of the lower floor of the Recreation Center. A grant for \$27,597.00 was given to the City in 2005 to purchase three playground structures for Sergeant City, Til Taylor and Stillman Parks.

The above lists just a few of the 132 grants totaling \$414,978.47, that have been given to the City of Pendleton Parks, Recreation and Cemetery from 1939 to 2007. This would not have been possible if it were not for the wonderful people that have given so generously over the years in memorials, donations and estates to the Pendleton Foundation Trust.

The following is a letter received by the Foundation from David Byrd and his staff at the City Parks, Recreation and Cemetery.

Dear Members of the Pendleton Foundation Trust Board of Directors,

Imagine for a moment the looks on the faces of Pendleton Foundation Trust’s original board members as they considered a proposal to build a skate park. They might not have understood it but based on the tenets of the Foundation, we believe they surely would have supported it.

For many years, Pendleton Parks and Recreation has been the fortunate recipient of gifts from Pendleton Foundation Trust for playground equipment, pool and ball field improvements, park upgrades, sports equipment, cemetery enhancements, an ice skating rink, and apparatus to support recreation programs at McCune Recreation Center. The first recorded grant in 1939 was dedicated to the development of Minnie Stillman Park, now known simply as Stillman Park.

As park staff identified a pressing need to update play climbers in Sergeant City, Stillman and Til Taylor parks, Pendleton Foundation Trust stepped up to ensure this needed safety upgrade was accomplished. The plaque’s inscription says it all, “A gift to the children.”

Recent grants include glass niches for the mausoleum in Olney Cemetery and the installation of permanent fencing for a ball field in Community Park, two projects that seem to exemplify the broad sectors of our population who have benefited. While the focus is on tangible enhancements, these projects are more precisely about making Pendleton more attractive for its citizens, providing spaces where families can gather together, and engaging youths in healthy activities.

Pendleton Foundation Trust’s partnership in these goals has been invaluable. Without that support we would not have met the match required to secure state funding for the skate park this year. With that support we are currently interviewing skatepark designers and skaters could be using the park by mid-2008. Skaters might say, “Dude, you get mad props!” Now we’re not exactly sure what that means, but we know it’s good. We’d just like to say to all who donate to Pendleton Foundation Trust and to those who serve on the board, you truly make a difference. Thank you.

Staff of Pendleton Parks, Recreation & Cemetery



Ice skating rink at Roy Raley Park



Playground structure at Til Taylor Park

Cook Enjoys Serving on Board of Directors

Pendleton is a wonderful town in part because so many talented people give of their time. It’s hard to imagine many have given more than Pendleton Foundation Trust board member, Don Cook.

Other than time away for school and military duty in the Navy, Don has lived all of his life in the Pendleton area having been raised on a wheat and cattle ranch near Pendleton. Don graduated from Oregon State University and returned to Pendleton where he was employed by Pendleton Grain Growers, where he worked for 42 years, retiring as General Manager. He and his wife Helen have 2 children and 5 grandchildren.

The list of organizations Don has given time, support, and expertise to is endless. His accomplishments and involvement in Pendleton activities has helped the community be a better place to live. A sample of the groups and organizations he has contributed time to include the Pendleton Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club, BMCC, Pendleton



Don Cook

Round-Up, Pendleton Country Club and many others. On the state level some of his involvement has included Board Chairman of Associated Oregon Industries, Director of SAIF, Director of Oregon Business Council, OSU Foundation Trustee, Director of the Oregon Corporation for Affordable Housing, and more.

Don is currently treasurer of the Pendleton Episcopal Church where he donates much of his time.

Don became a board member of the Pendleton Foundation Trust 11 years ago. During that time he has contributed valuable in-put to help the Foundation grow and provide even more support to the Pendleton community. Talking of serving on the board he said “serving on the Pendleton Foundation Trust board is both a serious responsibility and a wonderful opportunity to help make investments to improve our community.”

It’s hard to imagine many residents of Pendleton have given more to help improve our community than Don Cook. He truly is a “Pendleton person helping Pendleton people.”

PFT Fall Grant Awards Announced

Grants were awarded to seven organizations in Pendleton following the October distribution by the Pendleton Foundation Trust board of directors totaling \$77,926.25. Together with the spring distribution, this makes a total of \$180,963.75 that was awarded to organizations in Pendleton in 2007.

- PIONEER RELIEF NURSERY - \$4069.51 to purchase a commercial dishwasher and a conference table.
- V.F.W. LET’ER BUCK POST #922 - \$5071.00 to purchase a commercial gas range and oven.
- V.F.W. LET’ER BUCK POST #922 - \$4000.00 to install gas hot water heater and drinking water for Stillman Park.
- PENDLETON SCHOOL DISTRICT 16R for PHS - \$40,000 to purchase a video surveillance system.
- WEST HILLS INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL - \$6015.00 to purchase video projectors, cameras and carts.
- DIRT DABBLERS GARDEN CLUB - \$2486.00 to purchase three message boards and thirty brass markers.
- FRIENDS OF OLNEY CEMETERY - \$8467.00 to construct a water feature in the Memorial Garden.
- CITY OF PENDLETON, PARKS AND RECREATION - \$7818.00 to build fencing at Community Park ballfield.

Area Native’s Donation Helps Secure Her Legacy

The strength of a community is measured through the people who support its development, its activities and its culture. The Pendleton Foundation is the recipient of one such person who generously left a bequest to its Trust fund.

Eleanor Aldridge Forrester, a native Pendletonian, was a part of the East Oregonian’s publishing family that believed in and supported Pendleton. She and her husband, Bud Forrester, and sister, Amy Bedford, were running the paper following the death of their father, Editor E.B. Aldridge, in 1951 .

In 1973, the Forresters left to operate the Daily Astorian. This intelligent, gracious woman died at the age of 90 in Portland. Even though she had not lived in Pendleton for over 37 years, Eleanor never forgot her roots. The development of her home base was always a part of her interests. The contribution she made will insure that the culture she encouraged will be honored. The Pendleton Foundation Trust is most grateful to this generous donation and pledges her legacy will continue for the benefit of the citizens of Pendleton.



Eleanor Forrester