2016 Annual Newsletter



6th Annual Elwood Area Foundation Spring Gala

Saturday, March 25th 2017!

The Jessy Karr Band is the featured entertainment for the evening, playing a variety of music genres that will appeal to music lovers of all types.

The evening includes a catered dinner, Silent and Live Auctions, and open bar.

Tickets go on sale in January. Reserve a table so your friends and family can sit together. Individual tickets will also be available. Purchase tickets by calling the Foundation at 308-785-8113 or emailing elwoodAF@gmail.com.

Proceeds from the Gala go towards community betterment projects. Past projects receiving funds include the Elwood Public Library, Downtown Improvements, the Civic Center Renovations, updates at the Park, and many more. This year's proceeds will help make future projects a success.

Please join us for a fun evening, and help us give back to the Elwood Area!

What is the Elwood Area Foundation?

The Elwood Area
Foundation was established by a group of visionary locals who saw the need for a community giving organization. The sale of the Elwood Boy Scout cabin in 1980 for the amount of \$100,000 gave this group its humble beginnings.

Since that time additional money has been received from generous donors through memorials, bequests, endowments and donations, allowing the Foundation to grow.

The Foundation invests and administers these funds.

Thanks to your kind-hearted contributions we are able to give back to the area in many different ways.

Youth grants can be used for leadership education, youth projects, or other types of activities that result in youth empowerment. Students are encouraged to talk to a Board member or call the Foundation Office to discuss their ideas for youth grants.

Our **scholarship and student loan** programs are available to help students achieve their quest for higher education at all levels, whether that is at a trade school, community college, pursuit of an associate degree, or a four-year college.

Community grants are given for betterment projects that ensure our area remains a great place to live for future generations!

To learn more about our programs or for information on the Elwood Area Foundation in general, please call 308-785-8113, send an email to elwoodAF@gmail.com, check us out of Facebook, or stop by the office at 314 Smith Avenue.

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Mission Statement

The mission of the **Elwood Area Foundation** is to encourage, enhance and provide opportunities for charitable giving. To manage and distribute the funds in a responsible manner in order to strengthen the **Elwood Area Community** and benefit the future generations of our community.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bryan Nelson, Chairman Cynthia Evans, Treasurer Carlton Clark Kelly Gydesen Kate Hatch Hayley Huyser Carole Kleine Bryant Knoerzer Jerry Remmenga Tim Rowe Jenna Roberts Kim Scoville

Executive Director: Melissa Vinzant

2016 Elwood Spring Gala

The 5th Annual Elwood Area Foundation Spring Gala, held on March 19th 2016, was a huge success! More than 290 people enjoyed an evening of dining and dancing, and took part in the silent and live auction fundraiser. Proceeds from the event went towards upgrades at the Village Park.





A look at the Civic Center before the festivities begin. The Gala Committee worked hard to create this elegant arrangement.

Silent auction items on display in the Legion room. More auction tables were set up in the ball room.



The Foundation Board is incredibly grateful for the generosity of our supports. THANK YOU

to

everyone who participated and made the 2016 Gala a success!



A hand-crafted silent auction item, & dancing late into the night after the auction.

May Scholarship Awards total \$18,850 to 21 Students

Robert Birt Memorial Scholarship

Kristen Elliott
Tori Wilson
BreAnn Eaton
Tobie Carlberg
Seth Carbaugh
Karen Schneider
Cassie Jorges
Emma Collins
Amber Nelson
Amber Weber
Tyler Houser
Destiny Montey
Peter Ricciotti

Tilson Family
Scholarship

Cassie Jorges

The Home Agency
Scholarship

Cassie Jorges
Tori Wilson
Emma Collins
Tobie Carlberg;
Jessica Detering;
Isaac Hueftle
Southern Timm
Logan Becker

Gloria Hartsfield

Memorial
Scholarship

Cassie Jorges

James J. Leggott

Memorial
Scholarship

Amber Weber

Elwood Lions/
Gosper County
Carnival
Scholarship

Amber Nelson Tobie Carlberg Emma Collins Cassie Jorges Tyler Houser Tori Wilson

Robert C. Salisbury
Memorial-

Scholarship Tyler House

Robert & Barb Wade
4 Year College
Memorial

Scholarship Cassie Jorges Robert & Barb Wade
Comm. College

Memorial Scholarship

Tobie Carlberg

Wesley & Evelyn Fox

> Memorial Scholarship

Tyler Houser

Merlyn Schutz

Memorial
Scholarship

Tori Wilson

Leonard & Darlene
M. Schutz

Memorial Scholarship

Cassie Jorges

Bonnie V. Clark

Memorial

Scholarship

Destiny Montey

Velma Schroeder <u>Memorial</u> <u>Scholarship</u>

Tobie Carlberg

Centennial Committee Scholarship

Kristen Elliott

Chadd Hambidge
Memorial
Scholarship

Peter Ricciotti

Elwood Swim Team Scholarship

Cassie Jorges

Cori Arends Schutz

<u>Memorial-</u> Scholarship

Cassie Jorges

South Central Nebraska Corn Growers Association

Scholarship

Jackson Ebbers (Furnas County) Sarah Dannehl (Gosper County) Haley Ehrke (Harlan County) Kara Philips (Phelps County) "Real generosity towards the future lies in giving all to the present" Albert Camus

> DID YOU KNOW?

The Elwood Area Foundation:

- Administers scholarships for graduating seniors
- Accepts gifts in memory or in honor
- Administers a student loan program
- Provides Grants to Area Youth and Boy & Girl Scouting groups
- Provides Grants for Community Betterment
- Coordinates the Annual Spring Gala

Congratulations to all the area seniors and good luck to you in your future endeavors!

Thanks to all those who contribute to the scholarship program. You are helping students achieve their dreams.

2016 Memorials

The Foundation received many thoughtful gifts In Memory Of Harlan & Jackie Gydesen, to be given towards Transportation Improvements at the Elwood School.

Kip Withers Mitch & Jackie Berke Robert & Rhonda McBride Todd & Bobbi Wilson David & Pamela Leggott Ann Schultze Jim & Raime Varvel Rod & Dixie Dreher Scott & Amy Hill Doug & Kathy Niederdeppe Donald Smith Ken Vermaas Jr & Janelle Vermaas

Elwood Area Foundation

314 Smith Avenue P.O. Box 303 Elwood, NE 68937 Phone: 308-785-8113 Email: elwoodaf@gmail.com

Tax I.D # 76-0741866

The Elwood Area Foundation establishes endowment funds and administers the income for the betterment of the Elwood Area. The Elwood Area Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt, non-profit organization under United States tax laws. Gifts to the Foundation are tax deductible to the extent applicable under relevant tax law.

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About Charitable Giving

Charitable giving does not require great wealth. It requires generosity of spirit—the desire to share what you have for the benefit of others. Many have a desire to help others in a meaningful way. The challenge is how to best realize these desires.

The Elwood Area Foundation can help you match your desire to give with a worthy cause. Gifts to the Foundation can be made in any amount. Even the smallest gift can have a big impact when we all work together! And your donation is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

The Foundation accepts donations made in honor of a specific cause and donations made without designation. A designated gift will only be used as the donor directs.

There are many ways to invest in our future:

- Gifts of cash or property
- Gifts of grain or livestock
- Bequests in your will
- Retirement plans
- Gifts of life insurance
- Memorial/Honor gifts
- Gift annuities that provide lifelong income for you and your loved ones

We hope you will consider the Elwood Area Foundation for your year-end gift giving. For more information on how to give to the Foundation please contact:

Melissa Vinzant, Executive Director 314 Smith Avenue, Elwood NE 68937 308-785-8113

elwoodAF@gmail.com

You Are Invited!

Join us for our Open House during Old Fashioned Christmas on December 8th. Stop by to enjoy light refreshments and check out our new downtown office at 314 Smith Avenue!

