

2017 Winter Newsletter



ELWOOD

Area Foundation

Save the Date

7th Annual Elwood Area Foundation Spring Gala
Saturday, March 17th, 2018!

The evening includes a catered dinner, Silent and Live Auctions, open bar, and live entertainment by the band Top Spin.

Tickets sales start in February. Cost per ticket is \$75 or \$600 per table.

Proceeds from the Gala go towards community betterment projects. Past projects receiving funds include the Elwood Public Library, Downtown Improvements, updates at the Park, and the Civic Center Renovations. Proceeds from the 2017 Gala and the 2018 Gala will go towards renovating the Civic Center restrooms.

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 call the Foundation Office to discuss their ideas.

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!

We also accept **memorials and donations**. These can be made in honor of loved ones who have passed, to represent someone special to you or the community, or for any other reason you might have! Memorials and donations may be directed to a cause near and dear to your heart, or may be given without designation.

To learn more about these programs, please call 308-785-8113, email us at elwoodaf@gmail.com, check us out of Facebook, or stop by the office at 314 Smith Avenue.

SEND US YOUR INFO!

The Elwood Area Foundation would like to compile a contact list of Elwood Alumni and supporters living outside the Elwood Area, so we can make sure they receive our publications!

If you know someone who is interested in Elwood news, but lives outside the Elwood Area, please have them contact us!



Elwood Area Foundation
Melissa Vinzant, Executive Director
314 Smith Avenue
PO Box 303, Elwood NE 68937
308-785-8113
elwoodaf@gmail.com

Total Impact

More than 60 students directly benefited from EAF programs this year. The indirect impact to students is even greater, with funds also helping out those who will participate in the Baseball & Softball program and those who will receive assistance from the Elwood Volunteer Fire Department.

The same can be said for adults benefiting from EAF programs; the numbers served reach past our community, across the county, and beyond.

Although it is hard to measure the number of people benefiting from EAF programs, dollar amounts are easier to track. EAF gave back nearly \$70,000 in 2017!

Thank you to all who contributed to this accomplishment.

Elwood Area Foundation Year in Review

As the end of the year approaches, it is a time for reflection. In all, 2017 was a successful one for the Elwood Area Foundation. We hosted the sixth annual Spring Gala with a great attendance; disbursements for youth grants were made for many different activities; and numerous Elwood students benefited from EAF's scholarships and student loans. Thank you to everyone who played a part in helping us give back to this community that we all love. With your assistance, EAF made an impact on many lives this year!

Youth Grants:

L2 for Kids – 11 students
Internship assistance – 1 student
Citizenship Washington Focus 4-H conference- 4 students
Pride of the Prairie 4-H Club Veterans Welcome Home Ceremony at Fort Riley, Kansas —28 students, 5 veterans and their guests
2017 National Dairy Judging Competition, Nebraska Team – 2 students
Disbursed, \$3,600

Student Loans:

Currently attending school—4 students
Currently paying back loans—19 students
Amount of loans paid back and recirculated since 1981, \$430,000
Disbursed during the current school year, \$8,000

Scholarships:

40 scholarships from 19 EAF-administered scholarship funds will be issued to area students for the 2017-2018 school year.
Total scholarships for 2017 graduates and current college students, \$22,650

Gala Project:

2017 and 2018 proceeds allocated to assist with Civic Center restroom renovation, which will benefit the entire community, and beyond to any attending an event at the venue.
2017 proceeds allocated, \$30,000

Donor-Advised Funds:

Bequest disbursed to the Volunteer Fire Department for Equipment — benefits the Elwood community
Bequest disbursed to the Baseball & Softball Program for Equipment — benefits area youth
Disbursed, \$4,672.68

Funds disbursed in 2017 came from many different sources:

- bequests set up by residents during their estate planning;
- donations given to specific causes;
- scholarships established by families, businesses, and organizations;
- the student loan program created during the founding years of EAF; and,
- funds raised during the 2017 Gala.

There are many different ways to give, but they all result in creating an impact in our area.

Thank you for helping to make a difference in our community!

Memorials and Donations

Memorial gifts and honorariums are a thoughtful way to recognize someone special. Memorials are often directed to the Elwood Area Foundation in lieu of flowers for someone who has passed away, and honorarium donations can be made any time you would like to recognize someone important. The Foundation will send an acknowledgement of your gift to the family or honoree and the information will be included in EAF publications. Below is the list of memorials and donations made in 2017.

Memorials

In Memory Of:
Preston Adams
By Steve & Kim Scoville

In Memory Of:
Joe Bellamy
By Steve Heldt & Tod
McKeone

In Memory Of:
Connie Pierce
By Steve & Kim Scoville

In Memory Of:
Don Foss
By Dan & Shaunna Sjomeling

In Memory Of:

Dorothy Fiene
By Steve & Kim Scoville

In Memory Of:
Kenneth Dornhoff
By Steve & Kim Scoville

In Memory Of:
Marian Brainard
By Steve & Kim Scoville

In Memory Of:
Elaine Remmenga
By Terry & Beth Delp

In Memory Of:
Norma Foss
By Steve & Kim Scoville

Donations

Elwood Education
Association to honor
Daren Hatch & Kyle Hemmerling

Geiger Inc., Ray & Judith Geiger

Carl & Kay Norden



Thank you to all those who have honored someone special this year.

Alumni Open House

Planning is in progress for the 2018 Alumni Open House to be held on Saturday, July 28th during the Gosper County Fair! But we need YOUR help! The planning committee is looking for volunteers to assist with coordinating the Open House.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Melissa at the Foundation Office. Planning committee members will decide on the event time and location, decorations, snacks and beverages. Volunteers will be asked to serve as event greeters, and will help with set-up and clean up.

The event is sponsored by EAF and the Elwood Alumni Committee. To volunteer, please contact Melissa at 308-785-8113 or elwoodaf@gmail.com.

*“Real generosity towards
the future lies in giving
all to the present”*

Albert Camus

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday, Tuesday,

Thursday

9:00 -3:30

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.*

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314 Smith Avenue
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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About Charitable Giving

The main purpose of a community foundation is to bring together the financial resources of individuals, families, and businesses for the benefit of the community as a whole. For those looking to make a difference in our wonderful community, EAF can assist you in matching your funds with a project you care about, while also providing you with an opportunity for a tax deduction!

Gifts to the Elwood Area Foundation can be made in any amount. Even the smallest gift can have a big impact when we all work together! Please consider the Elwood Area Foundation when you are thinking about your year-end charitable gift giving.

To learn more about the different avenues available for charitable giving, contact Melissa at 308-785-8113, elwoodaf@gmail.com, check us out of Facebook, or stop by the office at 314 Smith Avenue.



The Elwood Volunteer Fire Department was presented with a check to help with purchasing new equipment. This partnership was made possible through the generosity of long-time resident Ella Ewer, who left a bequest in her will during her estate planning, that specifically set aside funds for the Fire Department after her passing.

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. Tax I.D # 76-0741866