

Foundation NEWS

Issue 9

February 2013

Dean R. Rolfsmeier Memorial Alumni Scholarship Application Form Available Online

Thanks to the tremendous generosity of Dean R. Rolfsmeier, the East Butler Foundation has awarded almost \$165,000 in scholarship funds to East Butler alumni and high school graduates.

Alumni who attend a two-year, four-year, or post-graduate institution are eligible to apply for the Dean R. Rolfsmeier Memorial Alumni Scholarship in 2013. The scholarship amount is to be determined.

Please note the following information:

- Application must be completed and post-marked by April 1, 2013.
- Applicant must have a minimum 2.5 G.P.A.
- The scholarship check will be made payable to the student and educational institution.
- Funds will be distributed no later than April 1, 2014.

- An official transcript must be included with the application. The document must indicate that you have attended classes during Summer 2012, Fall 2012, and/or Spring 2013 terms. Applications with no transcript will be disqualified.

Note: If you have been accepted into a program but will not start until Summer 2013 or later, please apply next year.

Access the application on the school's Web site under the *Foundation* tab: www.ebutlertigers.org. Print the application, include your transcript, and mail to:

East Butler Foundation
P.O. Box 54
Brainard, NE 68626

Applications and transcripts may not be E-mailed or submitted to the school office.

Act of Kindness Award to be introduced to elementary students

Through cooperation with the teaching staff, the Foundation has approved a concept of nominating students for their "Acts of Kindness." This award is meant to reward students for their good behavior. The specifics are still being worked out, but the Board is excited to begin rewarding students as soon as possible! Special thanks to Dave Struebing for acting as liaison between the staff and the Foundation Board.

Farewell . . .

Over the past five years, the Foundation has been very fortunate to have Paige Glasshoff as our administrative assistant. Her organizational skills, commitment, and initiative to bring forward and help implement new ideas and programs has been a big part of what has helped make the East Butler Foundation what it is today. Paige has gone back to school full time, and we wish her every success going forward. From the Foundation Board, thank you for all that you have helped us do!

Alumni Spotlight: Tom Pesek

The Foundation is pleased to introduce Tom Pesek as this issue's *Alumni Spotlight*. Tom is a 1964 graduate of East Butler. Following graduation, he attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and earned a bachelor's degree in zoology.

Tom was on active duty in the Marine Corps for three years and then continued his service in the Marine Corps Reserve until 1992. He returned to graduate school at UNL and earned a master's degree in Life Sciences with emphasis in aquatic biology. In 1974 he joined the staff of the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission (now Department of Natural Resources) where he initially worked in water resources planning. For 25 years he administered two programs that provided state funds for over 50 local water resources projects, including Czechland Lake and

Homestead Lake. Tom started farming in 1982 on a small scale and is now turning his land over to young farmers.

Tom and his wife, Gretchen, have four children: Cara, Alex, Anne,



and Mari. Their children are all East Butler and University of Nebraska-Lincoln graduates. Tom is actively involved in various local organizations, including the American Legion and Brainard Community Club. He served on the East Butler Board of Education for 20 years, the Brainard Village Board for 10 years, was a member of the inaugural East Butler Foundation Board, and coached baseball in Brainard for 20 years.

He believes the purpose of the East Butler Foundation is to improve the school and benefit its students. He feels the Foundation has had a very positive impact on student achievement and has provided increased opportunity for students to continue their education. He believes that by supporting the Foundation, we invest not only in our school but also in our local communities.

2012 Contributions to the East Butler Foundation

A heartfelt thank you to our contributors in 2012. Contributions and net proceeds from fundraisers totaled approximately \$13,628:

General donations and memorials, \$7,228; brick sales, \$400; alumni basketball (net proceeds), \$2,500; golf scramble (net proceeds), \$3,500.

Our goal is to be self-sufficient through the alumni. Types of gifts accepted are memorials, cash, securities, life insurance, and bequests.

If you are interested in giving to the Foundation and have specific ideas for your contribution, please contact a Foundation board mem-

ber or send an E-mail to ebutler-foundation@hotmail.com. The Foundation is more than happy to work with you and help facilitate your requests!

With your gifts, the Foundation is helping students achieve their goals.

Pennants

In 2012, a pennant tree was installed in the activities entrance to represent branches of the military and post-secondary institutions from which East Butler students have graduated. These post-secondary institutions are recognized with a silver-plated pennant. If you have recently graduated or would like to verify your institution is represented, please E-mail us at ebutlerfoundation@hotmail.com. We will gladly add your pennant!



\$5,000 allocated for *Teacher Grant Program* Staff applications due April 1

A *Teacher Grant Program*, sponsored by the Foundation, was presented to the teaching staff for the 2013-2014 school year. The grant program's intent is to stimulate development of projects that will improve curricular or instructional practices.

Staff must submit applications on or before April 1, with approval of the selected applicant(s) provided no later than May 1.

A maximum of \$5,000 will be provided to the grant recipient, with all purchases becoming property of East Butler. The Foundation board exists for the purpose of supporting education by providing financial and other resources to enhance our students' educational opportunities. It believes the staff is making a difference in lives and learning every day!

Last year, eight projects were approved by a joint effort between the Board of Education and the Foundation Board, including the following:

- 3 electric stoves, 1 refrigerator, and new cookware—to improve/upgrade the current Family and Consumer Science classroom.
- Leveled Spanish Readers—to increase the vocabulary, reading comprehension, and general reading skill levels of students taking Spanish courses.
- *Learning Together: The Wonders of Math and Science*—to motivate students as a presenter engages students and teachers in curriculum-based fun. All three locations will enjoy themselves and their peers as they learn together.
- Dictionaries and thesauri for 4th grade Brainard classroom—to update existing collection of well-used and damaged materials.
- Handheld graphing calculators for Math department—to revamp the way mathematics is taught and better prepare students for the technology needed in college and future careers.
- Writer's Workshop program for 1st grade Brainard classroom— to provide students access to electronic dictionaries, thesauri, punctuation guides, and more on iPod Touches to support writing.
- *We Both Read* book series—to help foster parent involvement in reading. Provided for Kindergarten through 3rd grade in all centers.
- Training and software for Lesson Maps to be used with reading curriculum *Treasures*—to maintain conformity among the three centers with the new reading curriculum. All elementary staff will learn effective instructional techniques.

5th Annual Foundation golf scramble scheduled for August 24

Make plans to join us for our 5th Annual East Butler Foundation Golf Tournament!

Saturday, August 24

The four-person scramble will be held at the Par IV Golf Club in David City.

Round up a four-person team; and remember, it is not a requirement to be an East Butler graduate. Regardless of your skill level or gender, this is a FUN event! Last year's scramble raised approximately \$3,500 for the Foundation.

Pictured are Ryan Dolezal and Shelby Sisel enjoying the downpour during the 2012 golf scramble.



EAST BUTLER *Foundation*

HELPING OUR STUDENTS ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS

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facebook.com/ebfoundation



March 15-17

**Men's and Women's
Basketball**

Women's Volleyball

*All East Butler and Prague alumni are
encouraged to participate!*

FEE: \$30 per player

\$45 if participating in both sports

For more information, please contact:

Aaron Pierce 402-417-5195

Janet (Rezac) Finley 402-499-3308

Participants are encouraged to sign up as soon
as possible so the brackets and teams can be set.

*All proceeds benefit the East Butler Foundation.
Thank you for your support!*