



The **HOMER**
FOUNDATION
2014 ANNUAL REPORT

A community pulling together



A grant to Bunnell Street Arts Center for their “Cosmic Agents” initiative supported Members of Kurva Choir, a chamber music trio.

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Our mission is to enhance the quality of life for the citizens of the greater Homer area by promoting philanthropic and charitable activities.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:
**A COMMUNITY
PULLING
TOGETHER**

I like to think of our community foundation as a catalyst for the community to come together to help those in need, address local issues, and build for the future. The iconic image of an Alaska dog team pulling together to reach their destination comes to mind. The dog team image also comes to mind as I remember a board retreat session we had with Dr. Linda Chamberlain on leadership, teamwork, and communication. Dr. Chamberlain is an amazing local asset. Besides being a renowned brain neurologist, she is an avid dog musher and co-owner of the Howling Husky Ranch, a rural homestead outside of Homer, Alaska. From lessons learned while working with her dog team she has developed a highly innovative lecture series on leadership and teamwork called “Lessons from the Trail.” Working with Linda we were able to explore our ability to work and communicate as a team as she harnessed us together dog team style and had us navigate obstacles she created for us.

Each year in our annual report we are excited to highlight some of the terrific work our grantees are doing to help build a stronger, healthier, more vibrant community. Like Alaska’s iconic dog teams, these organizations pulled together by creating multi-organizational and public/private partnerships to make something wonderful happen in our community.

In this report you will see more on the Bunnell Street Arts Center’s creative placemaking, which builds on the momentum and galvanization of the community around Homer’s Old Town. Others also put together strong teams, like the Homer Kachemak Bay Rotary Club’s project to provide a picnic pavilion and fire circle at Karen Hornaday Park. Their partners included the City of Homer Public Works and Recreation Departments, and the Homer Playground Project folks. The Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies applied for a grant



Dr. Linda Chamberlain, co-owner/operator of the Howling Husky Ranch and leadership training facilitator who worked with HF board

to print the new Homer Community Trails Map, but it was the combined efforts of CACS, City of Homer Parks & Recreation Committee, City of Homer Public Works, Best Beginnings SPROUT, Homer Chamber of Commerce and the Kachemak Bay Running Club that pulled all of the many elements of the map together. Equally exciting is the progress made by the informal Kachemak Bay Water Trail group under the fiscal sponsorship of the Alaska Trails organization. Working closely with the Friends of Kachemak Bay State Park and the National Park Service’s Recreational Trails Program, the Kachemak Bay Water Trail was officially launched this summer, and we can look forward to future collaborations, maybe even a merger between Kachemak Bay Water Trail and Friends of Kachemak Bay State Park!

The possibilities for the future are endless when we harness the power of community.

**Joy Steward, Executive Director
The Homer Foundation**



Homer Foundation's Youth Advisory Committee at Homer Middle School

FROM THE CHAIR

Involvement. It is a word that invites; it is a word that engages; it is a word of promise for better things to follow. It would be safe to say that the success of any organization is dependent upon the level of involvement of its members, leadership and employees. Drive, passion for success, inspiration for new ideas, solvency, completion of projects and programs: all depend on involvement.

Successful organizations always make the occasion to regularly assess their performance. The very act of self-assessment is a great measure of involvement.

I wanted to use this report to brag about the Homer Foundation Trustees and staff and volunteers. On an “involvement scale” of one to ten, they peg out at the top. But in truth, that is what is found in most of the non-governmental organizations (NGO's) on the Kenai Peninsula. It is a commitment of necessity. The delivery of much of the social, spiritual, physical, educational and charitable work is done by small staffs assisted by large groups of volunteers.

NGO work and NGO partnerships have

a large list of quality of life accomplishments. From the very young to the very old, NGO's provide programs, facilities and services that help provide a healthy community.

Involvement can also be through financial support. Your donations to those causes that matter to you not only provide the cash needed for the lights, heat and supplies, but it validates the work of the volunteers.

Do you know about the Community Chest? Unlike the other funds at the Homer Foundation which are invested for earnings, the Community Chest directs the donations through NGO groups to those in dire need. A donation to the Chest is a perfect place for summer visitors to involve themselves in the community they have enjoyed in vacation.

It is a certainty that if you have read this far, you are a person of high-commitment or acute curiosity. Whichever, thank you. You might have become unwittingly more involved.

**Ken Castner,
Chairman**

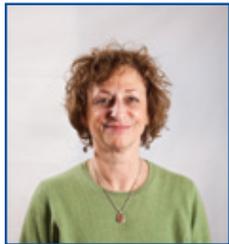
HF BOARD OF DIRECTORS



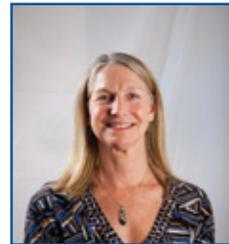
Ken Castner, Board
Chair; Investment
Manager



Steve Albert,
Treasurer



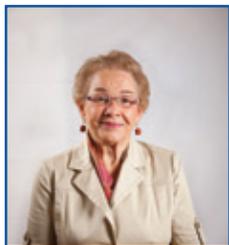
Carol Swartz,
Vice Chair, Audit
Committee Co-chair



Polly Prindle-Hess,
Secretary



Bonnie Jason,
YAC Advisor



Elaine Grantier



Phil Morris,
Investment Committee
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Committee Chair



Mike Pate,
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John Mouw,
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Committee Chair



Mary Epperson,
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Executive Director



Julia Clymer,
Bookkeeper



Heidi Stage,
Assistant Bookkeeper



Cindy Birkhimer,
Volunteer Admin
Assistant



A series of artists in residency workshops over the past year have encouraged community participation and collaboration.

A community pulling together: Old Town Project draws artful collaboration

Sometimes great growth comes from planting a single seed. Such was the case when Homerite Megan Murphy suggested the Bunnell Arts Center continue organizing the planting of an edible garden along Bunnell Avenue. What evolved from that singular suggestion went well beyond the garden edges to a community-wide effort that brought together everyone from artists to city planners.

The Old Town neighborhood is comprised of an eclectic grouping of businesses and private land owners, restaurants and art galleries, all influenced by their location near the popular Bishop's Beach, where beachcombers flock to enjoy the Kachemak Bay vistas. It's also a hotspot for young people, who drive to and from the beach, occasionally at enthusiastic speeds. As the history-rich area of town became more and more popular with tourists and locals alike, the mix of pedestrian and vehicle traffic along roads with little to no shoulder was creating some dangerous close calls.

As the Bunnell Arts Center initiated a conversation with the community about the garden, many of these issues came to the surface.

And while the original idea to build a wandering trail along the road didn't come out as planned, the center's executive director Asia Freeman said the proposed garden served as a stepping stone to more expansive ideas encouraging about what the neighborhood wanted and needed.

"We saw this potential for creative placemaking," Freeman said.

A \$150,000 grant from ArtPlace America galvanized that effort, funding several artist in residency programs, each aiming to draw the community into the process. Freeman said the Bunnell's history of artist-in-residency programs, some of which were supported by grants from the Homer Foundation, helped the nonprofit get the ArtPlace grant. The residencies started with an African drumming and dance group Fofana, which drew in dozens of residents of the Old Town community as well as beyond with weekly drumming circles and dance workshops. Then an Inupiat performance artist spent a month in Homer working on a new theatrical piece, holding community workshops throughout her effort. There was a mural commissioned by the art center depicting Homer's signature fireweed, and an event featuring local

poet Wendy Erd's work presented along a trail leading through an area of Old Town. A mural was recently unveiled painted by Homer artist Marjorie Scholl on the side of Fat Olive's restaurant. A huge sculpture of buoys grew off the porch of the arts center, the inspiration of artist Jarod Charzewski. Last spring, more artists joined the scene with what Freeman calls a "social practice project" that combined story telling and gathering locals to design and build a kiln on Bishop's Beach. Dozens more community members turned out to stomp in the mud, make bricks and talk about what drew them to Homer and why they stayed. The Bunnell and the Old Town community threw a dinner in the street in the summer, further pulling the community together, and more such events are planned.

"All these programs are about engaging people in the idea of creating a sense of identity and pride in community and in neighborhood," Freeman said.

Many more projects large and small were completed ranging from new signs for Old Town to bike racks that have been installed to a large sculpture of a comical loon wearing



A community dinner held last summer in Homer's Old town district celebrated the community's collaboration on improvements to the area.

mud boots, which is in the works for the Bishop's Beach area. While art was at the roots of all these projects and more, the effort also all served to draw the community together and get people talking about things like how to deal with traffic calming in the area.

City planners were approached by the Old Town community to discuss the need for speed bumps and other traffic calming measures along Bunnell Avenue. The road was widened to allow more space for foot traffic, and funding sources were found for a solar powered traffic education sign. In the spring, speed bumps will serve to further calm the area's traffic pattern, community members hope.

Issues regarding beach access and destruction of the Bishop's Beach storm berms remain, Freeman noted, but the conversation between city planners and community members is now an open conduit.

Freeman said while the project has been challenging administratively and logistically, the biggest challenge has been not limiting the imagination of

the community members and artists who participated in it.

"It doesn't have to have hard edges," she said. "It can be open, even beyond Old Town."

That expansive vision has come to fruition as the idea of neighborhoods taking some ownership in the planning and function of their own areas has grown beyond Old Town. Last fall, the upper hillside organized its own neighborhood traffic pattern for Halloween night, a time when cars and costumed children ran pell-mell through the streets in dangerous concentrations. The city worked successfully with community members to institute a one-way traffic pattern for the night.

Adele Person-Groning was one of the main organizers of that event, and has taken its success as a pattern for other efforts, such as an effort to create a safe way for children to bike to school. Person-Groning, who works at the Bunnell, said she learned from the Old Town conversation to do some of the groundwork toward a bike-

to-school pattern with community members, taking some of the burden off city planners.

"I myself was galvanized by the very grassroots effort at Bunnell as a neighbor knocking on neighbors doors one by one," she said. "We put active energy into creating a solution, but it was also a way to have those relationships."

Freeman said the Homer Foundation has influenced the developments in Old Town with its initial support of artist residencies at the Bunnell. In much the same way that the seed of an idea spread to a larger vision, so has the foundation's support allowed for a larger program to unfold, she said.

"If we hadn't had that experience, and hadn't always found support, we wouldn't have had the capacity or the confidence to aim for something much bigger," she said. "From capacity-building to sustainability, the Foundation has played a very important piece in cultivating this vision."

Community Continues Support for Education

Homer area students continue to benefit from a variety of permanently endowed scholarship funds administered by the Foundation. This year students received \$15,500.00 in scholarship awards:

Homer Community Science Scholarship: award supports post-secondary education in the life sciences. The fund was established by retired Homer High School Science teacher, Stan Eller, and is supported by community donations.

Cassidy Soistman, HHS: \$750 to study Sports Medicine and Athletic Training at Fort Lewis College

Katherine Dolma, HHS: \$750 to study Marine Biology

Sierra Moskios, HHS: \$500 to study Public Health and Psychology at the Pacific Lutheran University

Alain and Daniel Rieser Scholarship: recognizes a Homer High School graduating senior with a flair for foreign language and an interest in foreign cultures. The award may be used for continued language study at college or a self-directed travel/cultural immersion project.

Irene Pellegrini, HHS: \$3,000 for cultural and language immersion travels in South America.

Drew Scalzi Memorial Maritime

Scholarship: established in 2006 by the North Pacific Fisheries Association, community donors, and the Scalzi Family, in memory of Drew Scalzi. The underlying philosophy of the scholarship is to nurture young adults pursuing their careers in the maritime field or who are from fishing or maritime families

Deonisy Koney, KPBSD: \$1,000 to study Information Technology at AVTEC, Seward, AK

Beluga Tale Non-Fiction and Beluga Tail Fiction Writing Scholarships: reward Homer High School graduating seniors that demonstrate exemplary skills in fiction and non-fiction writing.

Hannah Baird, HHS: \$3,000 to study Environmental Science at Bard College, NY

Megan Garoutte, HHS: \$3,000 to attend the University of Alaska

Kachemak Bay Medical Clinic

Scholarship: established by Dr. Paul Raymond and the Kachemak Bay Medical Clinic to provide financial assistance to a public high school graduating senior in the greater Homer area who has best exemplified academic excellence, community and/or school service, and a strong work ethic.

Sierra Moskios HHS: \$2,000 award (\$500/yr for 4 yrs) assisting her post-secondary education at Pacific Lutheran University

Constance M. Bentston Music Education

Scholarship: Through the estate of Constance M. Bentston, the Constance M. Bentston Fund was established at the Homer Foundation to support causes that were important to Constance including the Constance M. Bentston Music Scholarship. This Scholarship was launched in 2012 to support music education for young people. The annual selection process is provided through the Homer Council on the Arts Scholarship Program.

Robert Hockema received \$250 for music/guitar.

Ptarmigan Arts Visual Arts Scholarship:

transferred to the HF and is now supported by a permanent endowment fund.

Irene Pellegrini, HHS: \$1,000 for purchase of art supplies and/or attending art classes

Alice Witte Memorial Volleyball Scholarship:

Alice Witte was an outstanding girls' volleyball coach at Homer High School and this award memorializes her inspirational spirit. Each year the coaching staff selects the young woman who possesses the attributes that Coach Witte would have been proud to coach.

Kyla Pitzman, HHS: \$500 to attend summer volleyball camp

There were no awards from the A.W. "Bill" Johnson Teacher Education Scholarship or the Health Care Providers Scholarship in 2014. The Foundation assembled nine different scholarship review committees to review the applicants. We appreciate the diligence the committees brought to the vetting process. Congratulations to all of the successful candidates of these community supported scholarships.

I am a recent 2014 graduate of Homer High School. A few months before graduation I attended a talk given by Joy Steward of the Homer Foundation regarding college scholarships and learned about the Beluga Tale Fiction Writing Scholarship awarded by the Tin Roof Foundation.



As a student who recently discovered the joy of writing, I eagerly submitted an application and three samples of my recent writing projects. I was ecstatic to learn that had been picked to receive this \$3000 dollar scholarship to help with my first year of college.

It is with deep appreciation that I would like to thank the Tin Roof Foundation and its donors, the Homer Foundation, Joy Steward, and everyone who is involved in awarding this scholarship. I would like to especially thank the anonymous donor for their generosity. It is because of you that I will be able to attend my first year of college at UAA and focus on my classes and not have to try to juggle a full class load along with a full-time job. Over the next four years I will be pursuing a degree in social work, and when I receive my diploma I will remember that one of the reasons it was made possible was because of your belief and your appreciation in my ability and talent as a fiction writer. Words don't seem enough, but thank you.

Megan Garoutte

My name is Deonisy Konev... I am a Russian Old Believer and am the oldest of six children and since I can remember I have been interested in electronics but mostly computers. Growing up in a small rural village with almost no access to computers except during school I always wanted to get a more focused and intimate knowledge. In my village young men primarily pursue a career in fishing or construction but I decided to go in a different direction...I finally settled on a career path that I think will bring me more satisfaction...I have decided on attending AVTEC in Seward and will pursue a certification in Information Technology.”



Deonisy Konev



Awards ceremony for Homer High School 2014 scholarship recipients.

All that I have ever wanted to do is make someone feel appreciated and heard. I discovered my passion early in life, and is one of the main reasons that I decided to graduate a year early. Why wait another year when you have your dream laid out in front of you? I hope that by achieving a higher education, I can explore specifically what I want to pursue in the field of psychology. I have many interests relative to the topic of the human consciousness and the healing process that comes along with it. I will be striving to find a career in any of the sub-categories. I believe that gaining a degree and gaining a higher education will present me with opportunities to guide me to my true calling in the world of psychology and social work.



Sierra Moskios

NEW FUNDS

Since 1991 the Homer Foundation has been a vehicle for those with a desire to give back to their community by creating a lasting legacy. The Foundation currently manages 54 permanent endowment funds and several restricted/temporary funds. The newest members of the Homer Foundation family of funds are the Bunnell Street Arts Center Fund and the Homer Mariner Fastpitch Softball Fund.

The Bunnell Street Arts Center Fund is an Agency Endowment Fund that will sustain Bunnell Street Arts Center's operations and mission: to nurture and present innovative art in all media for diverse audiences. We believe establishing a permanent agency endowment fund speaks volumes about the organizational maturity and fiscal sustainability of a nonprofit

organization, and that is certainly true for the Bunnell Arts Center and having an endowment fund is also a great repository for donors who want to support an organization's mission in perpetuity.

Any one that knows Dr. Bill Bell knows his passion for women's softball. As the longstanding fastpitch softball coach Bill is the driving force behind the establishment of the Homer Mariner Fastpitch Softball Fund. This fund will be used to develop and support women's fastpitch softball at the high school level through equipment, clinics, camp scholarships, and also through the encouragement and support of fastpitch softball development at younger levels.

Contributions to either of these new funds, or any of the funds managed by the Foundation, are an excellent way



Members of Kurva Choir, a chamber music trio presented through Bunnell Street Arts Center "Cosmic Agents" initiative

to support your community, either with a lifetime gift or through a bequest. Contact the Homer Foundation to learn how you can support a cause that matters most to you.



Alaskans set a record in 2014 for donations made to local nonprofits through Pick.Click.Give. More Alaskans than ever before participated in the Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD) charitable donation program, sharing millions of dollars with Alaska's nonprofits.

According to the Alaska Department of Revenue, as of April 1, 26,773 Alaskans donated \$2,771,400 from their PFDs, which is 13% more than last year. The average amount donated per person was also record-breaking, increasing by 11% from \$94 in 2013 to \$104 in 2014. Overall, 4.8%

of Alaskans who filed online for the PFD made donations through Pick.Click.Give.

One factor for the record-breaking year might be the "Double Your Dividend" Sweepstakes funded by ExxonMobil and the Rasmuson Foundation. As of this writing the 10 lucky Alaskans who donated through Pick.Click.Give. and were selected to win a cash prize of the value of the 2014 dividend have not been released.

"The goal of the Pick.Click.Give. program is to help make charitable giving part of the Alaskan way of life," said Pick.Click.Give. Program Manager Heather Beaty. "Alaskans proved once again that we are generous and we care about each other. We are proud to be part of a movement that has such positive impact on the lives of all Alaskans."

512 organizations in 50

communities around the state were eligible to receive donations through Pick.Click.Give. The Homer Foundation and the following nonprofits on the lower Kenai Peninsula received a combined \$54,300 this year: Anchor Point Public Library, Bunnell Street Arts Center, Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies, Cook Inlet Keeper, Homer Animal Friends, Homer Council on the Arts, Homer Community Food Pantry, Homer Independent Living Center, Homer Senior Citizens, Hospice, HoWL, Ninilchik Community Library, Pier One, Pratt Museum, SPROUT, and the Village of Razzdolna.

Our hats are off to all Alaskans who supported their favorite causes through Pick.Click.Give. and are helping to grow the tradition of making charitable giving a part of the Alaskan way of life.



Homer Foundation recognized as HoWL's Partner of the Year

Dear Homer Foundation,

After careful deliberation, the HoWL Board of Directors and I would like to Honor the Homer Foundation as HoWL's "Partner of the Year."

Every year at our annual auction and film festival, we honor several community members and businesses for their support of HoWL. This year, the Homer Foundation was the obvious winner for our "Partner of the Year" award.

The Homer Foundation has

supported HoWL ever since it was incorporated as a non-profit in 2010.

In particular, the Homer Foundation awarded HoWL its first grant, back in 2011. It was that grant, and the continuing support of the Homer Foundation that has enabled us to grow our capacity through foundation, corporate and government support.

This year our income from grants has increased tenfold since previous years, and it's due in part to the original

recognition by the Homer Foundation, ensuring other grantors that HoWL is worthy of receiving support.

We are so thankful for your long-time support of HoWL, and we'd like to publicly honor the Homer Foundation. Will a representative of the Homer Foundation be able to attend? Please let me know.

**Thank you,
Cheers,
Libby**



HoWL not only organized outdoor pursuits for youth of all ages in the Homer area, it also went to schools to talk about bear safety and other outdoor safety issues Alaska's youth face.



New exam tables for the Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic

Proud presentation from participant in the REC Room's FORK Club

BUILDING COMMUNITY ASSETS FOR TODAY, AND FOREVER

The Homer Foundation provides a simple, powerful, and highly personal approach to giving. We offer a variety of tools to help you achieve your charitable goals. Your contribution in any amount, directed to any of the funds managed by the Foundation, helps us grow and expand our support of the communities on the southern Kenai Peninsula. With a gift of \$10,000 or more, you may choose to create your own named fund as a permanent legacy for the community, either during your lifetime, or through a bequest. Donating to or through the Homer Foundation is easy:

CASH GIFTS

Cash is the simplest way to contribute to or through the Homer Foundation. Gifts of cash can be made directly to the Foundation or via credit card on our website at homerfund.org. The newest way for Alaskans to make charitable gifts is through Pick.Click.Give., the Alaska Permanent Fund Charitable Check-Off Program.

NON-CASH GIFTS

Donating appreciated assets such as real estate, publicly traded stocks, art work, fishing permits/boats, or other investments can save the donor significant capital gains tax liability, and the assets will be put to work to meet community needs.

PLANNED GIFTS & BEQUESTS

The Homer Foundation can accept planned giving vehicles such as charitable trusts, charitable gift annuities, life insurance policies, and retirement plans. A bequest to the Homer Foundation is simple to include in your will, and we can provide sample language for you and your legal counsel. If you plan to leave a planned gift to the Foundation please be sure to let us know so we can have your wishes on record.

PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS

Starting a fund at the community foundation can achieve the same philanthropic goals as a private foundation. You may want to consider working under the umbrella of the community foundation. You may receive superior tax benefits while saving on expense and management structure.

Need MORE INFORMATION?

We encourage donors to review their financial plans with their professional advisors. For more information and ideas on ways to integrate your financial planning with charitable giving ask your financial advisor or contact the Homer Foundation. We can provide a free phone consultation with a planned giving professional through our partnership with the Foraker Group.

CONNECT WITH US

Contact us to find out how we can help you achieve your philanthropic goals. Phone 907.235.0541, or stop by the office, located in the lower level of the Kachemak Bay Title Building at 3733 Ben Walters Lane in Homer. You can also connect with us via email at info@homerfoundation.org or online at www.homerfoundation.org. Also, please contact us to be added to our mailing list or to subscribe (or unsubscribe) to our e-newsletter.

Anyone may make a tax-deductible contribution to the Homer Foundation. Use the self-addressed envelope included in this annual report, go to our website at homerfoundation.org and click on the DONATE NOW button, or use the Pick.Click.Give. charitable check-off option when you file for your Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend. Your gift will be gratefully acknowledged, and a written receipt provided for tax purposes. The beneficiary fund will be notified unless you choose to remain anonymous. Do contact us should you need more information, wish to make a non-cash donation, or establish a named fund of your own, 907.235.0541.

THE HOMER FOUNDATION

The Homer Foundation Unrestricted Fund
Julia Park Howard (Strydom) Unrestricted Fund
The Homer Foundation Admin Fund
The Aquila Fund
The Homer Foundation Endowment Fund at the Alaska Community Foundation

AGENCY ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Alaska Marine Conservation Council Fund
Bunnell Street Arts Center
Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies Fund
Homer Animal Friends Fund
Homer Community Food Pantry Fund
Homer Council on the Arts Fund
Homer Public Library Fund
Hospice of Homer Fund
Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic Fund
Kachemak Heritage Land Trust Fund
KBBI-Bev Munro Endowment Fund
Pratt Museum Fund

FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS

Jessica Stevens Memorial Fund - youth performing & visual arts
Brother Asaiah Bates Fund – youth at risk through Homer Head Start
Homer/Kachemak Bay Rotary Club Fund - Rotary community service projects
Rotary Club of Homer Downtown Fund - Rotary community service projects
City of Homer Fund – operating support to nonprofits serving Homer
Ashley J. Logan Fund – benefits Homer area youth
Kachemak City Fund - benefits area residents
Choices for Teens Fund - supports prevention, intervention and support for youth at risk
Kevin Bell & Family Hockey Fund – supports entry level ice hockey programs
Sheldon Youth to Youth Fund – supports HF Youth Advisory Committee grantmaking

Constance M. Benston Fund – supports music education and cat care at the animal shelter
A Music Education Fund in Memory of Renda Horn – supports music and music education
Spay & Neuter Fund - supports spay and neuter clinics for cats and dogs

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Alice Witte Memorial Scholarship - HHS women's volleyball team member to attend volleyball clinic
Homer Community Science Scholarship Fund - HHS seniors, for life sciences
Diane Wambach “Shoot for the Stars” Scholarship Fund - college or career training
A.W. “Bill” Johnson Teacher Education Scholarship Fund - teacher education
Health Care Providers Scholarship Fund - healthcare field
Kachemak Bay Medical Clinic Fund - rewards academic excellence and strong work ethic
Drew Scalzi Memorial Maritime Scholarship Fund - support for students of fishing families or students going into the maritime industries
Ptarmigan Arts Scholarship Fund – to further arts education for high school students

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

Steve & Noko Yoshida Fund
Homer Incentive Fund
Jack & Mary Lentfer Fund
Daisy Lee Bitter Marine and Coastal Education Fund
The KLEPS Fund
The Cottonwood Fund
David and Mary Schroer Fund
Tin Roof Fund
Gooseberry Fund
Jane Little Family Endowment Fund
Jenson Fund
Compass Rose Fund
May M. Benson Charitable Fund
The Willow Fund
The JEMCO Fund

2014 Distribution

IMMEDIATE RESPONSE GRANTS:

Ashley J. Logan Fund

SPROUT, \$1,000-possible merger
Kachemak Ski Club, \$1,046-Ski Tow Upgrades
Friends of Homer Public Library, \$1,880-Summer Reading Program

Brother Asaiah Bates Fund

Homer Head Start, \$700-Art Enrichment
Homer Head Start, \$160-Swim Lessons

Choice for Teens Fund

HoWL, \$3,000-HoWL in Schools

Daisy Lee Bitter Marine & Coastal Education Fund

West Homer Elementary,
\$900 - Schoolyard Habitat
Pratt Museum, \$500-Putting By Exhibit

David & Mary Schroer Fund

Homer Hockey Assoc., \$1,000-Figure Skating
Nordic Ski Club, \$1,000-Grooming Equipment
Homer Middle School, \$3,000-Ex Curricular Support
Kachemak Swim Club, \$1,750-Swim Tour
Homer Foundation YAC, \$1,000
Big Brothers Big Sisters, \$500
- Big Awareness for Little Cost
Homer High Mariner Softball, \$500
- HHS Fastpitch Softball
Pratt Museum, \$1,000-Summer Intern

Homer KBay Rotary Club Fund

Homer KBay Rotary Club, \$750-Health Fair
Flu Shots

Kevin Bell & Family Hockey Fund

Homer Hockey Assoc, \$1,000-MicroBells Gear

Jack & Mary Lentfer Fund

Kachemak Nordic Ski Club, \$1,000-Equipment

Jenson Fund

Kachemak Nordic Ski Club, \$1,000-Equipment
Big Brothers Big Sisters, \$1,188-Clothing Project

May M. Benson Charitable Fund

Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic, \$2,000-
New Exam Tables
Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies,
\$1,889-Homer Community Trails Map

Steve & Noko Yoshida Fund

Center for AK Coastal Studies, \$2,000-Environmental Education Exchange
Rotary Club of Homer Downtown, \$2,000-Flex School Wellness Project

The Cottonwood Fund

Homer High School, \$3800 Theater Projector Replacement



Homer Council on the Arts' Blues in the Schools Artist in Residence Hawkeye Herman works with Nanwalek students

The Gooseberry Fund

Homer Foundation YAC, \$2,426

The Horn Section

Homer Council on the Arts, \$1,000-Blues in Schools

The KLEPS Fund

HoWL, \$1000-HoWL in School
McNeil Canyon Elem. School, \$840-Electronic Extravaganza
Kachemak Bay Water Trails, \$2,000-Structuring KBWT for Sustainability
Pratt Museum, \$1,500-Summer Intern

The Willow Fund

Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic, \$2,000-
New Exam Tables
Bunnell Street Arts Center, \$2,500-Cosmic Agents
Kachemak Nordic Ski Club, \$1,000-Grooming Equipment
Friends of Kachemak Bay State Park,
\$635-Training & Conference for Public Lands Partnership

Tin Roof Fund

Kachemak Nordic Ski Club, \$4,800- Youth Ski Rental Program

YAC GRANTS:

HoWL, \$1,740-Standup Paddleboards
Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic, \$1,820-
REC Room FORK Club

Best Beginnings Homer, \$1,500-Bayview Park Planning

Big Brothers Big Sisters, \$240-Pool Passes
Homer Council on the Arts, \$1,500-Art Camp
Homer Hockey Assoc., \$950-Free Skate Events
Project GRAD, \$1,000-Summer Institute & Middle School Bridge Programs

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS:

Homer Community Science Scholarship

Sierra Moskios, \$500
Cassidy Soistman, \$750
Katherine Dolma, \$750

Kachemak Bay Medical Clinic Scholarship

Sierra Moskios, \$2,000

Alain and Daniel Rieser Scholarship

Irene Pellegrini, \$3,000

Beluga Tail Non-Fiction Writing Scholarship

Hannah Baird, \$3,000

Beluga Tale Fiction Writing Scholarship

Megan Garoutte, \$3000

Ptarmigan Arts Scholarship Fund

Irene Pellegrini, \$1,000



Homer Foundation's YAC celebrate youth philanthropy

Drew Scalzi Memorial Maritime Scholarship
Deonisy Konev, \$1000

Alice Witte Memorial Scholarship
Kyla Pitzman, \$500

CITY OF HOMER GRANTS PROGRAM: General Operating Support

Bunnell Street Arts Center, \$3,600
Center for AK Coastal Studies, \$3,500
Cook Inletkeeper, \$3,300
Homer Hockey Assoc., \$3,000
Homer Community Food Pantry, \$3,780
Homer Council on the Arts, \$3,400
Hospice of Homer, \$3,780
Kachemak Heritage Land Trust, \$3500
Kachemak Nordic Ski Club, \$3,320

HOMER COMMUNITY CHEST:

Homer Community Food Pantry, \$7,744
- Emergency Aide for community

PROJECT GRAD KENAI PENINSULA:

Gear Up Scholarship, \$3000

UNRESTRICTED & DONOR DESIGNATED GRANTS

Employee Matching Grants
- Big Brothers Big Sisters in Homer, \$50
People's Choice Award
-Homer Community Food Pantry, \$500
Homer Council on the Arts, \$250-General Operating/pass-through
Kachemak Heritage Land Trust, \$500- General Operating/pass-through

Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic, \$250- General Operating/pass-through
South Peninsula Haven House, \$250- General Operating/pass-through
Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies, \$250- General Operating/pass-through
HoWL, \$250-General Operating/pass-through
Hospice of Homer, \$750- General Operating/pass-through
Homer Community Food Pantry, \$400- General Operating/pass-through
Kachemak Bay Running Club, \$2,000-Electronic Chip Timing System
Cook Inlet Keeper, \$2,500-Electronics Recycling Program
Homer Council on the Arts, \$1,000-Etude Building Demolition

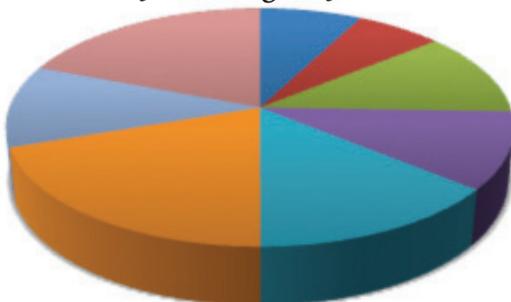
AGENCY ENDOWMENT FUND EARNINGS:

AK Marine Conservation Council, \$747
Center for AK Coastal Studies, \$2,100
Homer Council on the Arts, \$783
Homer Community Food Pantry, \$295
Pratt Museum, \$2,653
Hospice of Homer, \$3,663
K Bay Family Planning Clinic, \$793
Kachemak Heritage Land Trust, \$2,586
KBBi Bev Munro Endowment, \$2,451
Homer Animal Friends, \$1,122
Friends/Homer Public Library, \$6,364

GRANT APPLICATION/GUIDELINES:

www.homerfoundation.org
907.235-0541
info@homerfoundation.org

Grants by category



Arts & Culture	8%
Conservation/Environm	6%
General Operating Supp	11%
Health & Social Services	10%
Sports & Recreation	14%
Youth/Education	20%
Agency Endowment Ear	11%
Other	19%

YEAR IN REVIEW 2014

2 new funds were established, continuing a strong tradition of giving back to the community.

Our generous donors contributed more than \$333,613 to help meet community needs.

A total of 71 direct grants and 10 scholarships were awarded.

The Homer Foundation awarded \$210,254 in total distributions.

More than 40 community volunteers gave their time to help review scholarship and grant applications for the Foundation.

Through our grants programs, the Homer Foundation supported 38 different organizations that provide programs and services to meet community needs.



Homer Youth String
Orchestra perform in their
Fall Concert

FY14 FINANCIAL SUMMARY, UNAUDITED

REVENUE AND SUPPORT	2014
Contributions	333,613
Net Earned Income	10,952
Investment Gains (Losses) *	231,675
Distributable Investment Earnings	165,311
Total Revenue and Support	741,551
EXPENSES	
Grants from Participating Funds	95,581
Grants from Restricted Funds	83,523
Other Distributions	31,149
Personnel **	52,863
Operating & Program Expenses	37,532
Total Expenses	300,648
INCREASE/DECREASE IN NET ASSETS	440,903
DONATED GOODS AND SERVICES	32,889

*Realized & Unrealized Gains(Losses)

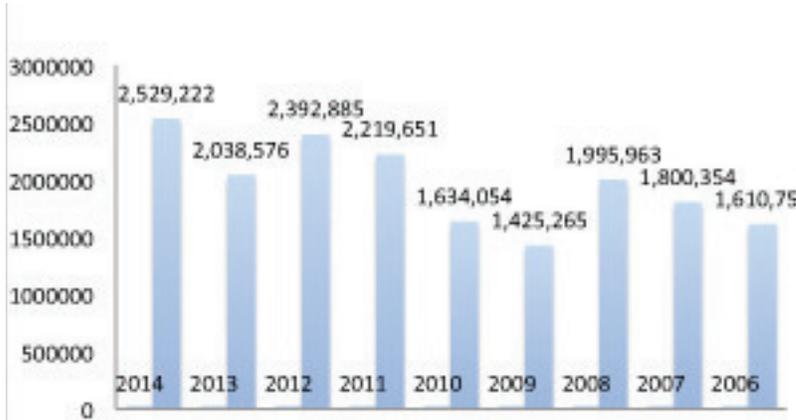
**Salary, Taxes, Benefits paid from unrestricted funds

Net Assets as of July 1, 2013	1,751,220
Net Assets as of June 30, 2014	2,192,123

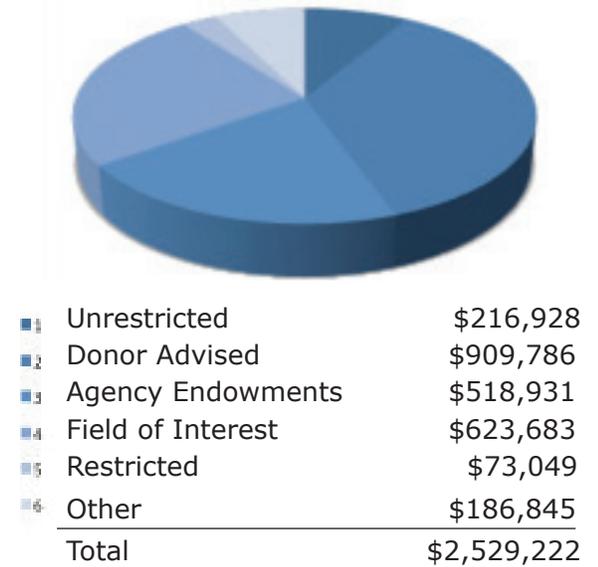
The Homer Foundation's investments are managed by board member Ken Castner in a volunteer capacity. The investment manager works closely with the Homer Foundation Investment Committee chaired by Phil Morris. Both Morris and Castner have held state and federal Investment Advisor Registrations.

Audited Financial Statements are available upon request, as are IRS Form 990 (or 990T)

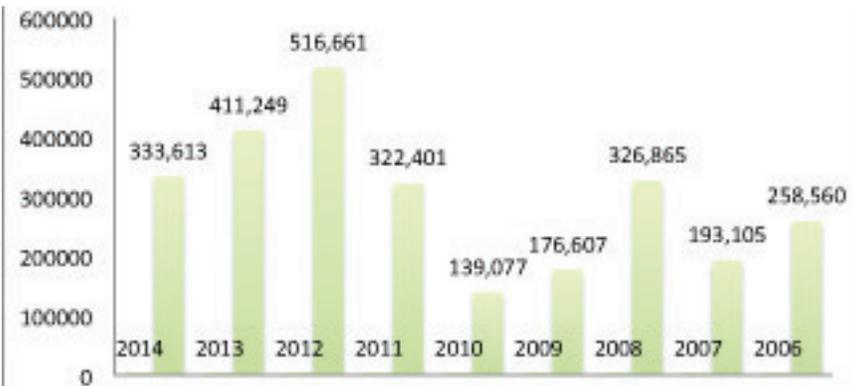
ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT



MANAGED ASSETS BY FUND TYPE



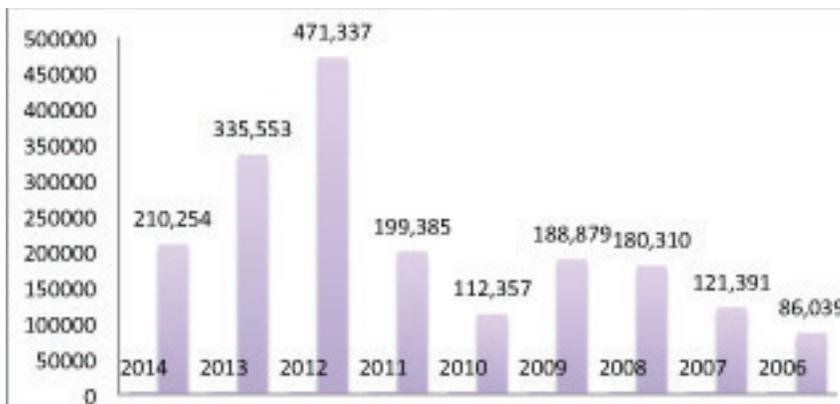
CONTRIBUTIONS



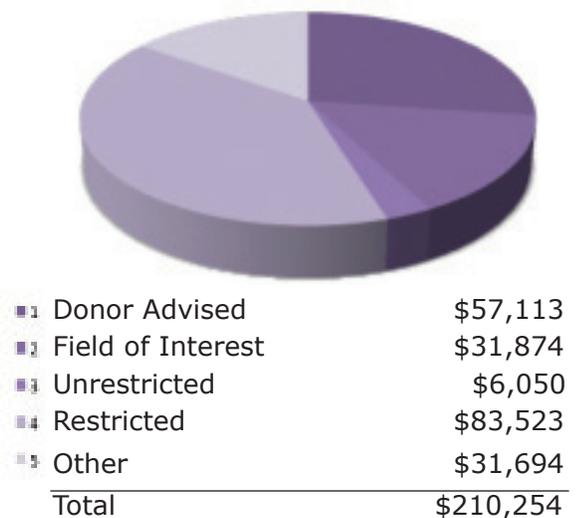
CONTRIBUTIONS BY FUND TYPE



DISTRIBUTIONS



GRANTS BY FUND TYPE





Kachemak Swim Club hosted Fitter and Faster Swim Clinic where Olympians trained local swimmers

FROM THE INVESTMENT CHAIR

The investment performance of the Homer Foundation improved markedly in fiscal 2014. Net of new capital additions our investment portfolio increased \$419,000 for a gross return of 23.64%.; this total included \$27,000 of interest and dividends (1.52%) and \$121,000 of realized gains from our options strategy (6.85%).

Our 2014 annual performance is in line with the S&P 500 that tallied a 24.04% return including 0.85% from dividends. The stock market has continued to be super strong and the bond market has risen at a rate not seen in three decades. There is growing speculation that the major banks, with funding and assistance of the Federal Reserve, are supporting these markets. This situation can continue until something breaks. Numerous potential black swan events exist in the global political sphere including the Ukraine, the ISIL surge in Syria and Iraq, the collapse of the European economy, to say nothing of the potential for Ebola virus to become widespread.

As I write this report in early September, the Homer Foundation

portfolio is positioned with 50% in U.S. cash as the dollar temporarily strengthens. The balance of the portfolio is invested in securities being used for our call strategy. This unusually conservative position is designed to minimize the negative effect of a potential market event that seems increasingly likely before the end of 2014. Should such an event occur much of this cash would be reallocated to equities at lower levels with a better chance of meaningful gains in the future. For now the outlook is especially opaque, with storm clouds all around. The markets have not yet reflected the numerous credit problems soon to break upon the U.S., European and even Eastern (China) economies. There is a time to invest aggressively and a time for caution, despite the strong year behind us, our maybe because of it, we are unusually cautious at this time and our investment position reflects this concern.

**Phil Morris, Chair
Homer Foundation Investment
Committee**

FINANCIAL STATEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

2014

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Homer Foundation Unrestricted Funds <i>includes the Julia Park Howard Unrestricted Fund</i>	167,735
Homer Foundation Admin Fund	49,193
Aquila Fund	114,139
Total	331,067

AGENCY ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Alaska Marine Conservation Council Fund	11,075
Bunnell Street Art Center	10,575
Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies Fund	31,319
Friends of the Homer Public Library Fund	104,224
Homer Animal Friends Fund	16,707
Homer Community Food Pantry Fund	20,765
Homer Community Health Clinic Fund	11,465
Homer Council on the Arts Fund	12,246
Hospice of Homer Fund	54,469
Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic Fund	13,161
Kachemak Heritage Land Trust Fund	38,359
KBBI-Bev Munro Endowment Fund	40,903
Pratt Museum Fund	39,521
Total	347,673

FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS

A Music Education Fund In Memory of Renda Horn	35,710
Alice Witte Memorial Scholarship Fund	11,588
Ashley J. Logan Fund	62,171
A.W. "Bill" Johnson Teacher Education Scholarship Fund	4,555
Brother Asaiah Bates Fund	10,391
Choices for Teens Fund	15,880
City of Homer Fund	261,720
Constance M. Benston Fund	14,026
Diane Wambach "Shoot for the Stars" Scholarship Fund	3,663
Drew Scalzi Memorial Maritime Scholarship Fund	35,941
Health Care Providers Scholarship Fund	20,661
Homer Community Science Scholarship Fund	22,567
Homer-Kachemak Bay Rotary Club Fund	26,286
Homer Mariner Fastpitch Softball Fund	5,813
Jessica Stevens Memorial Fund	12,562
Kachemak Bay Medical Clinic Scholarship Fund	7,145
Kachemak City Fund	12,796
Kevin Bell & Family Hockey Fund	6,262
Ptarmigan Arts Scholarship Fund	20,482
Rotary Club of Homer Downtown Fund	10,027
Sheldon Youth to Youth Fund	9,698
Spay & Neuter Fund	13,736
Total	623,683

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

Compass Rose Fund	16,893
Daisy Lee Bitter Marine & Coastal Education Fund	16,062
David and Mary Schroer Fund	132,720
Homer Incentive Fund	24,362
Jack and Mary Lentfer Fund	18,021
Jane Little Family Endowment Fund	43,821
JEMCO Fund	18,849
May Benson Charitable Fund	57,383
The Cottonwood Fund	61,576
The Gooseberry Fund	14,682
The Jenson Fund	64,571
The KLEPS Fund	109,039
The Tin Roof Fund	184,711
The Willow Fund	83,473
The Yoshida Family Fund	63,621
Total	846,164

OTHER

Repair & Replacement Fund/Kachemak City	106,666
Restricted Funds	73,049
Non Cash Assets	-46,164
Earnings Pending Distribution	126,343
Total	259,893.81

Total Assets Under Management	2,529,222
Less Funds Held for Others	-337,099

TOTAL NET ASSETS 2,192,123



ABOVE: West Homer Elementary School students explore their School Yard Habitat.

ABOVE RIGHT: Homer Council on the Arts presented Michael Hawkeye Herman and the Blues in the Schools program for over 1200 students at 11 schools

DONATIONS BY FUND TYPE

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS:

Homer Foundation Unrestricted Fund
 Steve & Vicki Albert
 Anonymous
 Bonnie Jason & David Schneider
 Polly Prindle-Hess & Bruce Hess
 IBM Retiree Charitable Contribution-
 Robert Burns
 Nadya Klingel & Mel Strydom
 Fantasy & Creative Tours (Homer Ukulele Group)
 John & Rika Mouw
 Todd Boling
 Bob Brant
 Tracie & Eric Brown
 Nancy Lord & Ken Castner
 Overton & Amy Colton
 Carol Comfort-Waldorf & Wally Waldorf
 Ann & Walter Dixon
 Charles & Nancy Evans
 Lisa & Robert Fellows
 Christie & Ty Gates
 Michelle & Douglas Waclawski
 Ron & Ann Keffer
 Mike & Kathy Pate
 Philemon Morris
 Elaine Grantier
 Rachel Bilbo
 Maynard Gross
 Dr. Diana Conway
 Claudia Haines & Steve Glasman
 Pauli & Harmon Hall
 Michael & Grace Halstead
 Shawn Hansen
 Mullen
 Tom Kizzia
 Betsy & David Lawer
 Victoria Lord

Jillian Lush
 Bruce Lyon
 Mildred Martin
 Karen Berger & Steve McCasland at Homer Brewing Company
 Jennifer Medley
 Jo and Peter Michalski
 Pat & Chris Moss
 Ardith Mumma
 Jacqueline & Clay Norvell
 Shirley Fedora & Bill Palmer
 Jim Levine & Sue Post
 Joyce Robinette
 Arlene Ronda
 Jim Rowe & Luana Stovel
 Denise & Gordon Pitzman
 Flo Larson
 Donald & Mary Sanders
 Robert Schmidt
 Theodore Patrick Schneider
 Christine Scott
 Spencer Shroyer
 Katherine Smith
 Carla Stanley
 Victoria Steik
 Joy Steward & Stu Schmutzler
 Julia Clymer & Karl Stolzhus
 Kira & Sandy Stuart
 Bob Cole & Carol Swartz
 Libby Veasey
 Brad Walker
 Ruth Woodring

Julia Park-Howard Unrestricted Fund

Virginia Howard Mullan & Michael

AGENCY ENDOWMENT FUNDS:

Aquila Fund
 Ann & Ron Keffer



A YAC supported grant to the REC Room for their FORK Club where youth learn about food and food preparation from local chefs

Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies
 Ron & Connie Alderfer

Bunnell Street Arts Center Fund
 Bunnell Street Arts Center

Friends of the Homer Public Library
 Friends of the Homer Public Library
 Anonymous

Homer Animal Friends
 Donald & Mary Sanders

Homer Community Food Pantry Fund

Homer Community Food Pantry
 Philemon Morris
 Shirley Fedora & Bill Palmer
 Dick Leirer

Hospice of Homer
 Donald & Mary Sanders

Pratt Museum
 Ron & Connie Alderfer



ABOVE: Kachemak Swim Club hosted the Fitter and Faster Swim Tour where Olympic swimmers trained local youth. RIGHT: Slated for demolition, HCOA turned Mary Epperson's Etude Studio property into a community art project



RIGHT: HoWL presents bear awareness in the schools.

LEFT: The Homer Hockey Association launches the We Skate figure skating program at the Kevin Bell Arena.



FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS:

Brother Asaiah Bates Fund
Michelle Wilson & Sean Hogan

Homer Mariner Fast Pitch Softball Fund

Bill Bell & Mary Lou Kelsey
Jessica Stevens Memorial Fund
William H. Stevens & Family

Kevin Bell & Family Hockey Fund

JoAnn & Don Ferguson
Teresa & Neil Ferguson

Music Education Fund in Memory of Renda Horn

Ann & Ron Keffer
E. Margaret Brummell

Spay & Neuter Fund

Dick Leirer

Sheldon Youth to Youth Fund

Josephine Schawillie

City of Homer Fund

City of Homer

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS:

Health Care Providers Scholarship Fund

Christine & Deland Anderson
Bill Bell & Mary Lou Kelsey
Bernadette Arsenault
Emilie Otis
Doug Reid & Karen Northrop
Katherine & Grant Haley
Jackie Forester
ZiZi Zoubek, DDS
Curt & Lorna Olson
Dots Sherwood, Homer Veterinary Clinic
Bobbie Behrens, MD
Hillary & Carl Seger
Dr. Hal Smith & Susan McLean
Dr. Susan Polis
James Heston
Ed & Janice Todd
Lynn Burt & Jim Meesis

Ptarmigan Arts Scholarship Fund

Ptarmigan Arts Gallery
Kathie Baldwin
Lynne Beeker
Hilary Cabana
Paul Dungan & Jenny Carrol
Kathi Drew
Peg Field
Margaret Fischer
Ruby & Tim Haigh
Ellen Halseth
Barbara & Ted Heuer

Adrian & Lauren Isenhour
Janaan Kitchen
Alex Koplin
Bev Macy
Cynthia Nelson
Dave & Susan Oesting
Gary & Jeannine Porter
Linda Skelton
Darcy Souza
Toby Tyler
Aleda Yourdon

Homer Community Science Scholarship Fund

Nancy Levinson
Marga & Dave Raskin
Donald & Mary Sanders
Curt & Lorna Olson

Drew Scalzi Memorial Maritime Scholarship Fund
Claire & Emma Laukitis, Salmon Sisters
Pat & Chris Moss
Beaver & Jessie Nelson

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS:

Compass Rose Fund
Shelly & Buck Laukitis

David & Beth Schroer Fund

David & Beth Schroer

JEMCO Fund
Elaine Grantier

The KLEPS Fund
Tina & Paul Seaton

PASS THROUGH FUNDS:
Homer Community Chest
Anonymous

HF Youth Advisory Committee
Pauli & Harmon Hall
David & Mary Schroer Fund
Gooseberry Fund

City of Homer Fund
City of Homer

Homer Playground Project
Alaska Coastal Freight

IN KIND:

Kathy & Mike Pate
Ken Castner
Foster & Company
Quiet Place Lodge
Paul & Harmon Hall
Alaska Coastal Marine



Guests enjoy an outdoor concert and dinner during this summer's Halibut Cove Live event.

Halibut Cove Live celebrates fifth year

This summer marked the fifth year for the Homer Foundation's Halibut Cove Live events and we are excited by the response. All three events were sold out in advance! Be forewarned; get your tickets for next summer early.

Our success might be due to the very beautiful and unique setting at Quiet Place in Halibut Cove. Or it might be the amazing food, incredible music and outstanding service our guests receive. But if you ask me it is all about the people that come together that make this event so special. From our fabulous hosts, Pauli and

Harmon Hall and their "staff" Ian, Dawson and Mady Gerard, to our guest chefs, Jason Porter and Maura Brenin. From all the gang in Cold Country and the Dan Mac Band, to volunteers extraordinaire Jill Berryman, Michelle Fournier, Marla Arndt, Suzanne Singer, Mary Edminster, sound tech Eric Fenger, bar staff Marion Beck and Elsa Bishop, and, marketing, Tia Pietsch; - you all helped to make our Halibut Cove Live events not only successful, but FUN! And of course, our guests, there would be no fundraiser without the folks that supported this event. See you next summer.



ABOVE: Volunteers Suzanne, Mary, Marlene, Michelle and Ken prep fresh oysters for the event.



LEFT: Guests Robin and Vincent enjoy a dance on the deck

What HF Offers Our Donors

The Homer Foundation helps connect your generosity with community need with guidance and integrity:

- Flexibility and Focus – You decide how, when and where to spend your money. The HF helps you transform your wishes into action.

- Reliability – Your charitable funds are invested and managed by our investment team with a 22 year track record.

- Efficiency – Giving through HF reduces or eliminates the time and expense of running a private foundation.

- Financial Stewardship – We help you achieve maximum tax advantages and work with our financial advisors and attorneys to incorporate giving into your plans.

- Support and Leadership – HF staff and board help identify local needs, so your donations can make the greatest impact.

Together, we are building a permanent endowment for our community.



Young swimmers from Head Start's program got a chance to learn some valuable water skills thanks to a grant from the Homer Foundation.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

The Homer Foundation's Development Committee found new life this year! Of all committees, Development may be the one whose role is the least understood. Our purpose is to nurture the culture of philanthropy, establish contribution goals for the Homer Foundation devise an annual Development Plan and identify trends and thereby engage the Board in strategic dialogue concerning philanthropy and fund development.

That may look like a recipe for stodgy committee meetings....but the Homer Foundation's Development Committee happens to be the most enjoyable, creative, up-beat and interesting committee I have ever had the pleasure to be a part of. The thoughtful and intelligent members of this committee have breathed new life into it! And what could be more fun than helping to grow a Foundation that we all believe in?

The best way to choose a path is to begin by listening. And that is what we have done. We have reached out to our donors and supporters to ask: Why do you give? What comes to mind when you think of the Homer

Foundation? The replies:

"All encompassing, supports all areas"

"I have learned that you don't have to be wealthy to start a fund and you can do it while you are alive"

"Great source of encouragement and help for local organizations"

"Teaching Philanthropy to our kids" (YAC)

"With our Fund we have all the benefits of a Family Foundation without the reporting obligations"

This year we have organized a monthly Op-Ed article in the Homer News encouraging philanthropy in general. We have established goals for new funds and created a Development Plan that will help the Homer Foundation continue to meet the needs of our community. And we are maintaining a constantly-growing list of ideas. If you have ideas you would like to add, let us know, we are good listeners!

**Denise Pitzman,
Chair Development
Committee**



Bequests: A Personal Legacy of giving

Including a charitable bequest in your will is a simple way to make a lasting gift to your community. When you make this gift through the Homer Foundation, we can establish a special fund that benefits the community forever and becomes your personal legacy of giving.

How it works:

- You include the Homer Foundation in your will as a bequest; we can help you or your professional advisor with the recommended language.
- You determine the type of fund you would like to establish with your gift.
- Upon your death, we set up a special fund in your name, in the name of your family, or in honor of any person or organization you choose.
- Your charitable gift is excluded from your assets for estate tax purposes.
- The Homer Foundation considers your charitable wishes when determining the areas of community need that would be most impacted by grants from your gift.
- Grants are issued in the name of the fund you establish (unless you have chosen the fund to be anonymous).
- The Homer Foundation handles all of the administrative details.

Your gift is placed into an endowment and the assets invested. Earnings from your fund are used to make grants

addressing community needs. Your gift—and all future earnings from your gift—is a permanent source of community capital, helping to do good work forever.

Making a bequest to the Homer Foundation is an easy way to transfer assets to charity. And, you can decide to do it at any age by adding to an existing will or drafting a new one. In doing so you can leave a legacy to your community, while enjoying the assets you need to maintain your current lifestyle. Through your will, you can choose to give a stated dollar amount, a specific property, a percentage of your estate, the remainder after distributions to other beneficiaries, or you can make your gift contingent on certain events. You can give cash, appreciated stocks, or other assets. Some of the most tax-efficient asset types to give through your will come from retirement plan accounts, since heirs would be taxed on the income in respect of the decedent.

The Homer Foundation provides a simple, powerful, and highly personal approach to giving. We offer a variety of giving tools to help individuals and families achieve their charitable goals. For more information and ideas on ways to integrate your financial planning with charitable giving ask your financial advisor, or contact the Homer Foundation.



Homer Hockey Coach Ori Badajos with her kids...Elena and Gye

Photo by Martin Renner

Homer Foundation launches new web site

Check it out!

We have updated our website, added new functionality and a new domain: www.homerfoundation.org (the old domain was “homerfund”). You can still make online contributions through our partner Network For Good, but you can also donate directly to the Homer Foundation through our own secure site. We hope to post current items of interest and

recent grants awarded. Check it out and let us know what you think.

Please note, along with the new domain name comes new email addresses, jsteward@homerfoundation.org, and the ubiquitous info@homerfoundation.org.

You can also like us on Facebook now! Stay in touch, we are your community foundation.



Cook Inletkeeper has great volunteer support for annual electronics recycling

Youth Advisory Committee nurtured attitude, habit of thinking outwardly

During my freshman year at Homer High School a youth-run group was formed. Its focus turned outward, to the needs of our community, at a time in our lives when self-absorption ruled.

The Homer Foundation's Youth Advisory Committee, or YAC, provided support to organizations that served youth in healthy, affordable and easily accessible activities. There were 10 of us the first year, spanning middle through high school.

With guidance from Homer Foundation members Bonnie Jason and Joy Steward, we learned the important aspects of grant making and fund development.

In turn, we learned how philanthropy related to building a better community and how, despite our youth, we could effectively contribute to these improvements.

In Homer's community, I've felt philanthropy occurring in multitudes. People give to each other in important ways — and not just monetarily. Individuals regularly contribute what resources they have — time, knowledge, creative energy, voice — to those without.

I've been lucky enough to receive wisdom passed on to me by teachers, children in the community, coaches, and parents who aren't even my own. It has been said that it takes a community to raise a child, and in Homer I've felt this sentiment practiced. Giving resourcefully and pitching in seem to be essential elements of our community's foundation.

My introduction to philanthropy through YAC and the Homer Foundation continued to influence me after leaving Homer for college. My sister and I started our own small business, called Salmon Sisters, while away at school, and one of the keystones to our vision was that we would be able to give back to organizations and causes that were important to us.

With Salmon Sisters we promote awareness for sustainable fisheries and healthy oceans with apparel and art so our lifestyle as commercial fishermen is long lasting. We have partnered with organizations with similar visions like the Alaska Marine Conservation Council and the Great Land Trust. We give a percentage of our sales to these organizations in order to support their efforts in maintaining and promoting healthy fish habitat.



Emma Teal Laukitis

I've realized that we can play a positive role in our community even when we are absent from it. My sister and I have not forgotten the ways Homer supported and inspired us while growing up there, and we attempt to remain stewards of the place that raised us. This spring we helped support the Drew Scalzi Memorial Maritime Scholarship, established to help young adults pursuing a career in the maritime field or who are from fishing families in the Homer area.

This year the scholarship was awarded to a young man who is the first male in his community of Russian Old Believers to go to college or trade school. This, to us, is a great reward for giving.

More than giving money, philanthropy seems to be about looking outward rather than inward — about offering something that is going to help someone else, and is going to make lasting change. It's about noticing the world around us and giving to its needs, within our means.

Emma Teal Laukitis was raised on a homestead near False Pass. She has lived in Homer during winters, but has returned to the Aleutians to commercial fish with her family each summer. She recently graduated from Williams College, where she studied English and studio art. She and her sister Claire are about to celebrate the second year as small business owners, and look forward to a creative future with their company, Salmon Sisters. Her story was first published in the Homer News.



Billy and Po Boy from Howling Husky Ranch demonstrate team leadership!

YAC - a team of Huskies

This past year, YAC adopted a litter of Huskies – a dozen 7th grade Huskies from Homer Middle School. The Homer Foundation and Homer Middle School partnered in order to provide YAC easier access to kids, and kids easier access to YAC.

The result was a whole new team of YAC participants who, after a year of being mentored by long-time YAC member Katherine Dolma, are now ready to lead YAC down the trail.

By participating in YAC, Huskies practice teamwork. They learn to function cooperatively making decisions and setting goals. Individuals take a leadership role when the team

is floundering, and join together creatively to find solutions when obstacles appear in the trail.

While learning about the assets and needs of our community, YAC members learn about themselves and one another. They become listeners and debaters. They ask questions and seek answers. They practice communicating effectively with adults and compassionately with one another. Most importantly, they discover the power of teamwork - that as a team they can make a tangible and positive contribution to our community.

Bonnie Jason
YAC Advisor

2014 YAC GRANTS

HoWL,
\$1,740-Standup Paddleboards

Kachemak Bay Family Planning
Clinic,
\$1,820-REC Room FORK Club

Best Beginnings Homer,
\$1,500-Bayview Park Planning

Big Brothers Big Sisters,
\$240-Pool Passes

Homer Council on the Arts,
\$1,500-Art Camp

Homer Hockey Assoc.,
\$950-Free Skate Events

Project GRAD,
\$1,000-Summer Institute & Middle
School Bridge Programs

THE HOMER FOUNDATION
PO Box 2600
Homer, AK 99603

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
HOMER AK
PERMIT # 15

OR CURRENT RESIDENT



TO FIND OUT MORE

web site: www.homerfoundation.org

e-mail: info@homerfoundation.org

Phone: 907-235-0541

Fax: 907-235-2021