



# FOCUS

THE HIAWATHA EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Volume 13, Issue 1

February, 2012

***“Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.”***

- W. B. Yeats

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN:

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As I write this letter, I, again, find it is hard to believe that another year has passed by so quickly. It does not seem possible that that much time has elapsed since I wrote the last letter.

We would like to offer our sincere “thank you” to everyone who once again helped by contributing your time and/or donations to make this past year yet another successful one for the Hiawatha Education Foundation. The support from our community, our alumni, and from our donors continues to make this endeavor a successful one in both growing the endowment fund and increasing the size and number of grants that we are able to fund. Whether it be this fund drive or the golf outing your support has been unwavering and we truly appreciate it.

Now back to writing this appeal, in some way maybe I should contact Mrs. Worden and ask her where I’m going wrong in how to connect this letter to the public. I thoroughly enjoyed her English classes and especially enjoyed journalism class, but somehow I feel maybe I have forgotten how to really write an article that connects with the reader. Case in point: Every year we send out over 1,900 “FOCUS” newsletters and every year we receive back only a small number of responses. On an average those donations will total between five to seven thousand dollars, an amount that I am very, very appreciative of. In a small community like Kirkland I would never have imagined that we could be so fortunate.

But back to why I feel responsible:

I do understand that our economy is still not the best and that many cannot afford to give and maybe some do not believe in the goals of this foundation. I also know 100% response is not feasible. But let’s look at it with rose colored glasses, if we could attain 100% response rate and each gave only \$10 we would raise \$19,000; well over 2.5 times as much as we receive now. How about 50% response with a \$20 donation? I have to admit, I do not know what the average is for responses for other non-profits. Maybe the 5% that we see in returns is average or maybe even better than average. I was raised to never settle for second best, always reach higher. I guess that is why I call in to question my journalistic ability when writing this appeal. Maybe after 5 years of writing appeals I find myself wanting to know that I am reaching everyone and making them aware of the Hiawatha Education Foundation and what good we are doing for the students of Hiawatha Schools. The only way I have to measure this is the support we receive back from you.

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**Hiawatha Education  
Foundation**  
PO Box 83  
Kirkland, IL 60146  
(815) 522-6676

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## A HEARTFELT THANK YOU!

Our Sincerest thanks to the following  
who contributed this past year:

Anonymous  
 Barry and Kris Aves  
 Diane Aves (in memory of Judy Vandling)  
 Marv and Wanda Bernhardy  
 Blake Oil Co.  
 Bob Boardman Trust  
 Ken and Martha Brooks  
 Connie and Kent Carlson  
 Class of 1961  
 Dennis Colbert, Jr.  
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 Rosalie Jones Link  
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 Bob and Bonnie Luxton  
 Brad Maracle  
 Lillian McCreadie (in memory of John)  
 Menz Sisters (in memory of Stuart and Bernita)  
 Carole and Jim Murphy  
 Larry and Avis Myelle  
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 David and Linda Paulson (in memory of Wayne and Jane)  
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 Averil Schreiber  
 Marilyn Sim  
 Nancy Slattery  
 Brian and Lori Stevens  
 Carol and Jim Suhr  
 Ron and Janet Taylor  
 Village of Kirkland  
 Arlington and Carol Williams  
 Ross Youngberg  
 Martin and Pamela Zadigian

And, of course, all who support our golf outing in one way or another.

If we have overlooked your contribution or have misspelled your name, please contact us.

## GRANTS AWARDED IN 2011

Name of Grant	Teacher(s)
Lorado Taft Trip	Mary George and Colleen Ford
History Club/Fair	Todd Johnson
Tech Science/Math	Kenneth Mathiesen
Digital Document Camera	Penny Damiani and Jenny Hadick
Adler Planetarium Trip	Stephanie Jorzak and Geriann Failla
Burpee Museum	Bev Bentley
Pre-K/Kindergarten Conference	Laurel Slack, Emma Barr, and Ann Sullivan
Pre-K Materials	Laurel Slack

“The history Club at Hiawatha had another very successful year thanks in part to the Hiawatha Education Foundation. 18 students earned superior ribbons at the state history fair in May. This was the second highest total ever for the Club. The Club used funds from their grant to stay overnight in Springfield while visiting sites in and around Springfield. The club also used funds to purchase books for their Illinois History Library. Titles added this past year include books on Joseph Smith, the 1906 World Series, Lincoln’s Team of Rivals, The Black Hawk War, Ronald Reagan, Lincoln and Douglas, and the FBI in the early 1930s.”  
Todd Johnson



**House of Representatives Chamber in the Old State Capitol**

“Parents and children were invited to Open House for an evening of Fine Arts. Each class room teacher was designated a different artist to study in depth. Their art-work was displayed in the hallways. There was a steady flow of people who visited the rooms and enjoyed the art activities planned. We are truly grateful that there is a Foundation to provide money for these events because otherwise it would not be possible.



## TWELVETH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

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Once again, the team of Nancy Slattery and Bill Koehring pulled off another fantastic golf outing. It was an absolutely beautiful day which provided a great backdrop to our 100 plus golfers. The golf outing has become the main source of revenue on a yearly basis for the Hiawatha Education Foundation. It not only provides income for the Hiawatha Education Foundation, but all involved have a great day of fellowship and fun. The Hiawatha Education would like to extend a special



thank you to all the sponsors. Hole sponsors were: Alpine Bank/Kirkland Branch; Aves Family Farms; Blake Oil Co.; Dial Machine; Kirkland Historical Society; Kirkland Quick Stop; Lane's Farms Trucking and Hogs; LDR Cleaning and Restoration by Len and Donna Roach; Merrill Lynch; and Shape Master Tool. Table Sponsors include: Aves Family Farms; Kirkland Mini Storage by Ed and Helen Davis; Kirkland Chamber of Commerce; Kirkland United Methodist Church; Lawson Bags by Carl Calkins; and Jim and Peggy Stuntz. We would also like to thank the many individuals and businesses who donated raffle/auction prizes. Also, we owe a big debt of gratitude to auctioneer, Todd Wills, who did a great job for us this year. And last, but not least, we would like to thank all the golfers. With support like this, the Hiawatha Education Foundation can realize its goals and visions -- to provide resources which will enhance and enrich the educational opportunities, programs and activities for all students and staff of the Hiawatha Schools beyond regular funding revenues. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Please support all these businesses who have so generously supported the Hiawatha Education Foundation and their endeavors.

## GOLF OUTING 2012

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Plans are under way for the Thirteenth Annual Golf Outing to be held on Friday, June 29, 2012 at the Prairie View Golf Course in Byron.

Pre-registration forms for Golf Outing 2012 may be obtained at the Alpine Bank - Kirkland Branch or by contacting the Hiawatha Education Foundation at PO Box 83, Kirkland, IL 60146. Come participate in the Hiawatha Education Foundation and get a great start to the Fourth of July Weekend and know you are also helping the students in the district.

## ALL-SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

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Kirkland-Hiawatha All-School Open House 2012 will be held Wednesday, July 4 (ONE DAY ONLY), 1:30-6:30 p.m. at the Hiawatha Grade School Gym, Kirkland IL. This seventh Open House is, again, in connection with Kirkland Lions Club 4th of July Celebration which is June 30, July 1, and July 3-4, 2012. Graduates, former attendees, and faculty/staff: be one of many returnees or first timers! Take this opportunity to come and visit with classmates and friends and do some remembering as you look at yearbooks, scrapbooks and other displays. Please spread the word -- in your conversations, email, and social networking. See more information in school newsletters and emails.

There will also be information at the school website (<http://teacherweb.com/IL/HiawathaSchools/DistrictHomePage/SDHP1.stm>) and also the 4<sup>th</sup> of July link at [www.villageofkirkland.com](http://www.villageofkirkland.com).

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Alumni are encouraged to contact the school to verify they have your correct address. Contact the school by phone at (815) 522-6676 or by mail at Hiawatha School District 426, PO Box 428, Kirkland, IL 60146. You may also send your current address information to [apolzin87@yahoo.com](mailto:apolzin87@yahoo.com). Please include the following: your name (including maiden name, if applicable), the name of your spouse (if applicable), the year you graduated, your address (city, state, zip), your phone number (including area code), and your e-mail address (if you have one). Please encourage all your classmates to do the same.