



# A FOUNDATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY

## ANNUAL REPORT 2013





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*The* **HOMER**  
FOUNDATION

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

When you are in the business of building permanent philanthropic assets for the community you must plan for sustainability. Sustainability is so important for all nonprofits that Dennis McMillian, President of the Foraker Group recently published a book, *Focus on Sustainability*, where he highlights four interconnected factors he believes are integral to a sustainable organization.

The first factor is Focus on founding principals in all strategic decision-making.

The second is the Right People. Good leadership is key to good governance and adherence to vision, values, and mission. In its twenty-two years the Homer Foundation has had unparalleled leadership and dedication from its board members.

The third element for sustainability is having the right partners. The Foundation has attracted strong partners for building and distributing philanthropic assets. The Rasmuson Foundation, the Alaska Community Foundation, the City of Homer, and Kachemak City, dozens of nonprofits, and hundreds of individual donors, have all put their trust in the Foundation to manage the philanthropic assets for the public good. Equally important partners are our volunteers, community members who serve on scholarship and grant review committees. They help ensure our philanthropic assets are distributed wisely to our nonprofit partners to assure community needs are met.

The fourth factor for sustainability is holding sufficient unrestricted assets to take advantage of opportunities and to handle unforeseen downturns. Thanks to our donors, the Foundation has the unrestricted assets necessary to meet changing community needs, current operations, and future needs.

The HF gets high scores for sustainability:

- Focus
- Right People
- Partners
- Unrestricted Assets

Focusing on our sustainability ensures the Homer Foundation will always be there working to help create healthy, more vibrant communities.

Joy Steward, Executive Director  
The Homer Foundation





## FROM THE CHAIR

I lived my childhood in a staid New England town. As sailors (on vessels powered by wind) our concept of “fast” was relegated to the length of the waterline of the vessel. Our concepts of advanced sailing involved the deployment of spinnakers and the better understanding of fluid dynamics. It was not quite wooden ships and iron men, but it was close. For generations, sailors matched themselves against each other within those constraints.

Along came the 2013 America’s Cup races. The boats were multi-hulled. UGH! The boats are equipped with hydrofoils (not allowed by the rules) disguised as dagger boards (allowed by the rules). Double UGH! This was blasphemy to every yachtsman that ever trimmed a jib. The boats not only had catamaran speed, but on the foils they doubled their speed, sometimes exceeding 50 miles per hour. A 3 hour event turned into a 30 minute drag race: Here they come; there they go! America’s Cup sailing has turned into a new extreme sport. What does this have to do with the Homer Foundation and community philanthropy?

Three things, actually.

First, the rate of change that the world faces has increased at a startling clip. There are almost daily changes in economies and finances, changes in climate, a rapid dwindling of some key resources, changes in social networking and interactions, and a growing dependency and reliance on technology. Like the new boats, change is in the wind.

Second, there is the lesson of over-coming situations that seem impossible. The United States team was down 1 to 8 in a nine race match to a team of excellent sailors from New Zealand. They won the next seven races to tie, and came from behind in the last race to win the event. Using this sporting event as a metaphor is irresistible.

Third, while all team sports involve “team work”, these races involved 11 men that never stopped moving. They were an integrated mechanism of intellect and athleticism coupled to a machine that moved along the edge of maximum performance and failure.

If you read about the 2013 America’s Cup races, you will likely read about the boats or the come-back. You may read about the billionaire backer of the US boat. The never-say-die team will only be known to a few sailing enthusiasts.

Change. Courage and conviction. Teamwork.

Ken Castner  
Chair, Board of Trustees

# 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



Elaine Grantier



Bonnie Jason, YAC Advisor



Denise Pitzman, Development Committee Chair



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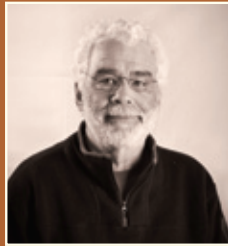
Flo Larson



Buck Laukitis, Audit Committee Co-chair



Phil Morris, Investment Committee Chair



John Mouw, Distributions Committee Chair



Mary Epperson, Trustee Emeritus

## HF STAFF



Joy Steward, Executive Director



Julia Clymer, Bookkeeper



Heidi Stage, Assistant Bookkeeper



Cindy Birkhimer, Volunteer

## HIGHLIGHT GRANT: VISTA VOLUNTEER

Midwinter boredom inspired Sara Conyers to take a variety of college classes on everything from mushrooms to photography a few years ago, and it was there that a cultural anthropology class caught her attention.

While she had always been interested in the natural world and food, it wasn't until the class that she said she put it all together.

"I said, 'Yes, this is what I want to do,'" Conyers recalled. "I want to work with people in culture and specifically with food."

The Kachemak Bay Campus Kenai Peninsula College classes not only gave Conyers the inspiration but also the means. It was in one of the classes that she met Kyra Wagner, Homer's powerhouse for sustainability and the organizer of a three-year AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer program funded in part by the Homer Foundation.

Conyers came on board as the final volunteer, following through with work started by Benjamin Zimmerman and Bronwynn Kelley. The biggest challenge, Conyers said, was to keep true to the program's intent to build capacity rather than provide direct service. Essentially, that means that her job was to find grants or other means to enable people to do projects rather than jump in and help them do the projects themselves.

"It's important to find ways for other people to do things because that's sustainable," she said.

The Homer Foundation funded Conyers' position with a stipend from the Cottonwood Fund that helped pay for some of her costs of living while volunteering with the program. The same fund helped cover expenses for the other two volunteers as well.

Conyers worked hand in hand with staff of the Homer Farmers' Market, finding funding to match Food Stamp vouchers that effectively doubled the buying power of those in the program. The market's children's corner also grew and market programs were promoted in local newspapers. Conyers said all that effort was toward bringing more people to the market, thus increasing the number of customers for farmers.

The food system in Homer has changed in recent years due to a federal program that funded large metal-frame, plastic covered greenhouse-like structures called high tunnels. Working with the 200 or so high tunnel owners in Homer was another part of the Vista Volunteer program effort, Conyers said. She and Wagner held several meetings in the spring, trying to gauge interest in future collaboration between growers. Would growers use a cooperative storage and processing facility, for example, or work together to provide a more consistent source of produce for area markets, such as restaurants.

Conyers spent a lot of time talking with local restaurants about their needs (basil!) and their concerns about buying local (consistency) and worked to convey that information to growers.

Part of the VISTA Volunteer effort has also been to compile a resource for all things relating to growing and processing food in the Homer area. This local food manual lists everything from the number of people growing food to ways to process and harvest your own food. Still in the draft for, it is one of the goals of the program to publish this comprehensive guide for future local use.

Conyers said her time as a VISTA Volunteer has taught her a lot about the local food system as well as inspired her to apply for a graduate school program looking at the impacts of food on health, especially as they relate to Alaska and other areas where subsistence food sources are still prevalent.

"My biggest interest is how people get their food and how food ties everyone together," she said. "I see a lot of correlations between the disconnect in our society and the disconnect from our food."

Wagner noted in a letter of thanks to the Homer Foundation that while enthusiastic, VISTA volunteers don't earn "diddly," so the foundation funds were essential in supporting her efforts.

"Your support goes to make her life here in Homer as an altruistic volunteer possible," Wagner said. "I can't fully express the difference you are making."



## A SUSTAINABLE MESSAGE

Alaskan salmon fishermen just enjoyed a record season. Over 266 million salmon were harvested this summer, and although the value is still being calculated it is likely to become one of the most valuable catches in history. The incredible abundance of salmon in 2013 is unique, but the formula for success is repeatable: healthy habitat, conservative management, a little enhancement, and some of Mother Nature's magic. Hard working fishermen, tendermen and processors prepare and make many sacrifices to have an opportunity for a once in a lifetime harvest. Fishermen compete with each other to do well for themselves and for their families, but the overall benefit to the State of Alaska of our healthy salmon resource is huge. Tens of millions of dollars flow into our coastal communities each and every year.

Although fishermen's earnings are uneven, I always try to think of ways to give something back to my community. I encourage my fellow fishermen to do the same. The needs are great in our coastal communities. Giving your time, money or talent to the less fortunate, volunteering at a non-profit organization or church, or coaching or mentoring kids are ways that you can make your community thrive. On good years like this consider donating a sum that is significant for you to your favorite local cause, or establishing or adding to a fund at your local community foundation.

Vibrant community foundations exist in many coastal communities. Philanthropy is an interesting thing. We all work hard to earn and save for our families. But giving can become so much more rewarding than acquiring. We all need to work hard on our fishing gear and boats in the off season, but again, coaching or volunteering or donating some of that hard earned money gives us meaning and can make a big difference in our community. It is puzzling, but the more we give the more seems to come back our way.

I also try to think of those who came before me that have helped make my profession successful. Good management and abundant resources don't just happen. The work of many people over many years made that possible. And there are many challenges to come. I think it is important to support fishing organizations and marine conservation groups that promote good management and healthy habitats. There are long established fishing organizations in coastal communities across the state. Also, devote some time to city and borough issues and perhaps make a trip to Juneau if that is what it takes to make your community thrive.

Salmon fishermen understand the principal of ensuring escapement. Fisherman collectively harvest only to the level where enough fish are left to spawn to sustain future runs. That is not a sacrifice. It is a necessity. If we do it right we reap the benefits forever. Similarly if we take care of our communities in times of abundance we will ensure better times ahead. Think about what we can accomplish if we all give something back.

Buck Laukitis

Buck Laukitis is a Trustee of the Homer Foundation, President of the North Pacific Fisheries Association in Homer and a coach.



# HOMER AREA STUDENTS SCORE BIG

May is scholarship season, and a busy time at the Homer Foundation. Homer area students benefit from a variety of permanently endowed scholarship funds administered by the Foundation. This year area students received \$22,750 in scholarship awards. Each of the review committee's had an exceptionally difficult task due to the high caliber of the applicants.

Congratulations to the 2013 recipients of these 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.

- Caroline DeCreeft, HHS: \$1000 to study the Health Sciences at Northern Arizona State University with the goal of becoming a doctor of chiropractic medicine.
- Hanna LaRue, HHS: \$500 to study at St. Olaf College working towards a degree in Nursing or Sports Medicine.
- Katie Kirsis, HHS: \$500 to study Biology at Pomona College.
- Mark McGregor, \$500 to study Life Science at Pacific University.

## **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

- Katherine Pitzman, HHS: \$1000 to study Business at Lewis and Clark College, Oregon.
- Hanna Mikols, HHS: \$1000 to study International Relations at Denver University.
- Dylan Faulkner, HHS: \$1000 to study Engineering at Stanford University.

## **Beluga Tail Non-Fiction and Beluga Tale Fiction Writing Scholarships:**

Homer High School graduating seniors that demonstrate exemplary skills in fiction and non-fiction writing.

- Hope Hudson, HHS: \$3000 to study Political Science at Linfield College or Pacific University
- Sirena Turner, HHS: \$3000 to study English/Journalism at Brown University.

## **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.

- Cruz Morey, HHS: \$2000 award (\$500/yr for 4 yrs) to attend Linfield College
- Lydia Arndt, Connections: \$1000 (\$500/yr for 2 yrs), to study Music Education at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

## **Health Care Providers Scholarship:**

supported by area health care professionals to fund local students pursuing a career in a health care field (includes veterinary medicine, medical and technical training). Award is deferred until students have been accepted into their chosen program.

- Elliott Weddle, \$2000 to study Orthotics and Prosthetic Technology at Spokane Falls Community College. Elliott was a 2010 graduate of Homer High School.

## **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.

- Grant Arseneau, HHS: \$3000 to support travel abroad during his sophomore or junior year of college. Grant will be attending Oregon State University this fall.



**Constance M. Bentston Music Education Scholarship:**

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

- Patrick Latimer, \$850 to study saxophone and music composition at the Sitka Fine Arts Camp this summer.

**Ptarmigan Arts Visual Arts Scholarship:**

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

- Ashley Freeman, \$900 to study digital art at UAA/ Kachemak Bay Branch.

**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.

- Larsen Fellows, \$500 to attend volleyball camp. Because of the donors who had the vision to establish these scholarships, and the community members that continue to support them, these funds will be here to support the education of our youth far into the future. Tax exempt donations to support these scholarships, or any of the 50 funds managed by the Foundation, are graciously accepted.

**Diane Wambach "Shoot for the Stars" Scholarship:**

established to in memory of a mother that always encouraged her own children to shoot for the stars. It is awarded each year to an area student that is most able to articulate their dream to pursue vocational training or higher education.

- Caleb Lunsford, HHS: \$1000 to study Heavy Diesel Mechanics at AVTEC.



Barb Scalzi congratulates Dylan Faulkner after presenting him with the Drew Scalzi Memorial Maritime Scholarship to support his pursuit of an engineering degree at Stanford University. Dylan's family is part of the local fishing industry, and he has worked on commercial fishing boats.



Caleb Lunsford received the Diane Wambach "Shoot for the Stars" Scholarship. In his application essay Caleb wrote, "My grandfather was a mechanic all his life. Whenever I went to visit I was always in the shop helping him... He was my hero... I've taken shop every year of my high school career... I plan on attending AVTEC... to pursue work as a heavy diesel mechanic... From the grime under my finger nails to the rich smell of a 454 purring ... It's my passion, my energy and what excites me to get up every day.

## NEW FUNDS

Community philanthropy is driven by the desire to give back. The lower Kenai Peninsula is blessed with an abundance of individuals who give consistently of their time, talent, and treasure to make their community a better place. The Homer Foundation continues to be a vehicle for those who want to turn that impulse into a lasting legacy. The Foundation recently welcomed three new funds that will benefit area residents long into the future.

Anyone who knows Elaine Grantier through her work in the local school system, her service on the South Peninsula Hospital Board, or participation at St. John's Catholic Church, has experienced her incredible energy and love of learning. But now, long past a time when most of us would have retired and been happy to sit at home with a good book and cup of tea, Elaine launches into the world of philanthropy by joining the Homer Foundation board of trustees and establishing a new donor advised fund, the JEMCO Fund, at the Foundation. As a donor advised fund, Elaine will be able to recommend grants from her fund to support the things she is passionate about in our community including music, and issues relating to seniors or young children.



Our other new funds are the Spay and Neuter Fund and the Homer Community Food Pantry Fund. Anyone interested in learning more about giving back to their community by establishing an endowed fund should contact Joy at the Homer Foundation.

# 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.







## 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. Donating to or through the Homer Foundation is easy. Your contribution in any amount, directed to any of the funds managed by the Foundation, help 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.

### 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](http://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, we are 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@homerfund.org](mailto:info@homerfund.org) or online at [www.homerfund.org](http://www.homerfund.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 [homerfund.org](http://homerfund.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  
 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 edu-

cation and cat care at 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  
 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 – 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

# 2013 DISTRIBUTIONS

## IMMEDIATE RESPONSE GRANTS:

### Ashley J. Logan Fund

- Best Beginnings Homer, \$500
- Bayview Park Planning
- Big Brothers Big Sisters, \$353
- Camera & Video Recorder
- Homer Council on the Arts, \$375
- Art Quest

### Brother Asaiah Bates Fund

- Homer Head Start, \$591
- Rain Gear for Children

### Constance M. Benston Fund

- Homer Animal Friends, \$850
- Cat Beds for the Shelter
- Homer Council on the Arts, \$850
- Music Scholarship/Patrick Latimer

### Daisy Lee Bitter Marine & Coastal Education Fund

- Center for AK Coastal Studies, \$1,144
- Making Trails Speak

### David & Mary Schroer Fund

- Homer Foundation YAC, \$500
- Youth Philanthropy
- Hospice of Homer, \$1,950
- Annual Newsletter
- Homer Community Chest, \$500
- Emergency aide
- Kachemak Bay Lions Club, \$500
- Thanksgiving Basket Program
- Best Beginnings Homer, \$1300
- Literacy Outreach Program
- Homer Middle School, \$2,500
- Extra Curricular Support
- Pratt Museum, \$4,500
- Tamamta Katurlla Gathering
- Big Brothers Big Sisters, \$500
- Big Awareness for Little Cost
- Homer High Mariner Softball, \$500
- HHS Fastpitch Softball
- Pier One Theatre, \$400
- Brahms Requiem
- Pratt Museum, \$1,000
- Service to School Groups

### Homer KBay Rotary Club Fund

- Homer KBay Rotary Club, \$1,900
- Community Service Projects
- Homer KBay Rotary Club, \$500
- Thanksgiving Turkeys



### Jack & Mary Lentfer Fund

- Cook Inletkeeper, \$2,500
- Electronics Recycling Project

### Jane Little Family Endowment Fund

- Rotary Club/Homer Downtown, \$450
- Send student to RYLA
- Pratt Museum, \$500
- Tamamta Katurlla Gathering
- Hospice of Homer, \$500
- General Operating Support
- Homer Community Food Pantry, \$500
- General Operating Support



### Jenson Fund

- Homer Hockey Assoc., \$3000
- Refrigeration System Maintenance
- KP Fair Association, \$3500
- Water System Overhaul
- Friends/Homer Public Library, \$1775
- Summer Reading Program

### Jessica M. Stevens Memorial Fund

- Homer Council on the Arts, \$1500
- Art Quest
- Homer Council on the Arts, \$675
- Summer Youth Music Camp

### May M. Benson Charitable Fund

- Kachemak Nordic Ski Club, \$3000
- Ginzu Groomer Purchase

### Rotary Club of Homer Downtown Fund

- Rotary Club/Homer Downtown, \$1900
- Helping Homer Kids
- Rotary Club of Homer Downtown, \$990
- Community Service Projects

### Steve & Noko Yoshida Fund

- Center for AK Coastal Studies, \$5000
- Mentorship in Outdoor Education
- Center for AK Coastal Studies, \$5249
- Peace Forum Youth Ambassadors

### The Compass Rose Fund

- Homer Hockey Assoc., \$1260
- Girls Intro to Hockey Camp

### The Cottonwood Fund

- Kachemak Heritage Land Trust, \$2000
- Victor Holm Homestead transition
- Sustainable Homer, \$3000
- VISTA Volunteer/Local Food Network
- Friends/Homer Public Library, \$2000
- Homer Big Read 2013

### The Gooseberry Fund

- Sustainable Homer, \$300
- VISTA Volunteer/Local Food Network

### The Horn Section

- West Homer Elementary, \$2409
- Marimbas for Music Education
- Pier One Theatre, \$1400
- Brahms Requiem

### The KLEPS Fund

- Kachemak Heritage Land Trust, \$2000
- AK Statewide Meeting of Land Trusts
- Friends/Homer Public Library, \$2000
- Homer Big Read 2013
- HOWL, \$1800
- Support HOWL Intern
- Pratt Museum, \$1500
- Service to School Groups

### The Willow Fund

- Kachemak Heritage Land Trust, \$1000
- Victor Holm Homestead Transition
- Bunnell Street Arts Center, \$2000
- Online Outreach Expansion
- Pratt Museum, \$500
- Service to School Groups





### Tin Roof Fund

Kachemak Heritage Land Trust, \$1500  
- AK Statewide Meeting of Land Trusts  
Homer Council on the Arts, \$4325  
- Summer Youth Music Camp  
- Alain/Daniel Rieser Scholarship, \$3000  
- Beluga Tail Non-Fiction Writing Scholarship, \$3000  
- Beluga Tale Fiction Writing Scholarship, \$3000

### **YAC GRANTS:**

#### **Sheldon Youth to Youth Fund**

Homer Council on the Arts, \$1200  
- Circus Camp  
Homer Youth String Orchestra, \$500  
- Music Purchase  
HOWL, \$762  
- Support for Peer Leaders  
Kachemak Heritage Land Trust, \$1072  
- Green House & Garden Fence Repair  
Project Grad, \$1250  
- Summer Institute & HMS Program  
Pier One Theatre, \$1250  
- Youth Theatre Tuition Assistance  
REC Room Fork Club, \$1750  
- FORK Club



### **SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS:**

#### Homer Community Science Scholarship

Caroline deCreft, \$1000  
Hanna LaRue, \$500  
Katie Kirsis, \$500  
Mark McGregor, \$500

#### Kachemak Bay Medical Clinic Scholarship

Cruz Morey, \$2000  
Lydia Arndt, \$1000

#### Alain and Daniel Rieser Scholarship

Grant Arseneau, \$3000

#### Beluga Tail Non-Fiction Writing Scholarship

Hope Hudson, \$3000

#### Beluga Tale Fiction Writing Scholarship

Sirena Turner, \$3000

#### Drew Scalzi Memorial Maritime Scholarship

Katherine Pitzman, \$1000  
Hanna Mikols, \$1000  
Dylan Faulkner, \$1000

### Diane Wambach

"Shoot for the Stars" Scholarship  
Caleb Lunsford, \$1000

#### Alice Witte Memorial Scholarship

Mariner Volleyball, \$500

### **CITY OF HOMER GRANTS PROGRAM:**

Bunnell Street Arts Center, \$4,900  
Center for AK Coastal Studies, \$5,000  
Cook Inletkeeper, \$3,500  
Homer Community Food Pantry, \$4600  
Homer Council on the Arts, \$4900  
Hospice of Homer, \$5500  
Kachemak Heritage Land Trust, \$3500  
Kachemak Nordic Ski Club, \$4500

### **HOMER COMMUNITY CHEST:**

Homer Community Food Pantry, \$11,925  
- Emergency Aide for community

### **PROJECT GRAD KENAI PENINSULA:**

Gear Up Scholarship, \$1000

### **OTHER GRANTS**

Employee Matching Grants  
- Bunnell Street Arts Center, \$50  
- Big Brothers Big Sisters in Homer, \$50  
- Kachemak Heritage Land Trust, \$100  
- Hospice of Homer, \$100  
People's Choice Award  
- Friends/Homer Public Library, \$500

### **AGENCY ENDOWMENT**

#### **FUND EARNINGS:**

AK Marine Conservation Council, \$1695  
Center for AK Coastal Studies, \$4768  
Homer Council on the Arts, \$1664  
Pratt Museum, \$6023  
Hospice of Homer, \$ 8313  
K Bay Family Planning Clinic, \$1484  
Kachemak Heritage Land Trust, \$5870  
KBBI Bev Munro Endowment, \$5126  
Homer Animal Friends, \$2548  
Friends/Homer Public Library, \$14014

### **GRANT APPLICATION/GUIDELINES:**

[www.homerfund.org](http://www.homerfund.org)

907.235-0541

[info@homerfund.org](mailto:info@homerfund.org)



Alaskans once again set new records in sharing their Permanent Fund Dividends (PFDs) with nonprofit causes across the state. According to data provided by the Alaska Department of Revenue Permanent Fund Dividend Division, 26,093

Alaskans pledged \$2,445,450 to Alaska nonprofit organizations. Total contributions grew 10 percent over last year with almost 3,000 more Alaskans donating through Pick.Click.Give. than in 2012.

Fourteen qualifying nonprofit organizations in the Homer Foundation's service area garnered \$48,725 through Pick.Click.Give.

In addition to the Homer Foundation, Southern peninsula participants included Bunnell Street Arts Center, Cook Inletkeeper, Friends of the Homer Public Library, Anchor Point Library, Ninilchik Library, Homer Animal Friends, Homer Council on the Arts, Homer Community Food Pantry, Homer Senior Citizens, Pier One Theatre, Pratt Museum, South Peninsula Haven House, and Razzolna Village.

"Our hats are off to the generous Alaskans who chose to support these organizations through the PFD Charitable Check Off Program," said Homer Foundation Executive Director Joy Steward, "these organizations help to build vital, healthy, sustainable communities."

January 1<sup>st</sup> marks the beginning of the filing period for the 2014 PFD, and another opportunity for Alaskans to support the causes they care about through Pick.Click.Give.

# FY13 Financial Summary, unaudited

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<b>REVENUE AND SUPPORT</b>	<b>2013</b>
Contributions	411,249
Net Earned Income	5,013
Investment Gains (Losses) *	(444,714)
Distributable Investment Earnings	141,128
<b>Total Revenue and Support</b>	<b>112,676</b>

## **EXPENSES**

Grants from Participating Funds	137,702
Grants from Restricted Funds	114,171
Other Distributions	83,680
Personnel **	39,474
Operating & Program Expenses	36,985
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>412,012</b>

**INCREASE/DECREASE IN NET ASSETS** **-299,336**

**DONATED GOODS AND SERVICES** **34,146**

\*Realized & Unrealized Gains(Losses)

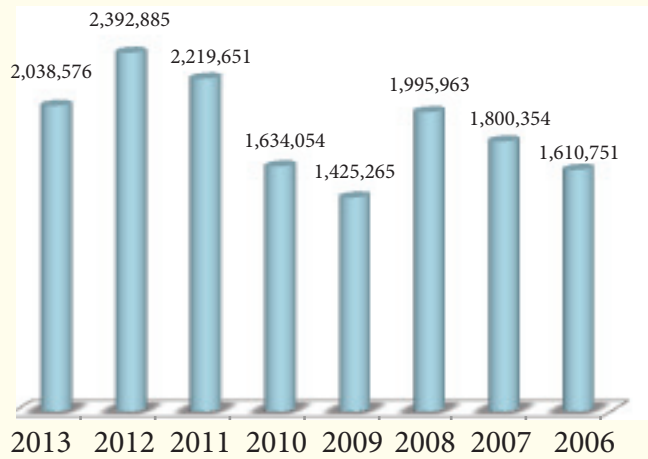
\*\*Salary, Taxes, Benefits paid from unrestricted funds

Net Assets as of July 1, 2012 2,050,557

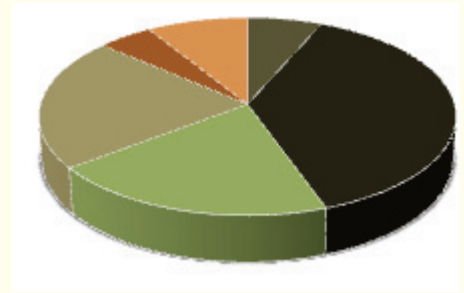
Net Assets as of June 30, 2013 1,751,221

*The Homer Foundation's investments are managed by board member Ken Castner, working closely with the Investment Committee, chaired by Phil Morris. Audited Financial Statements are available upon request, as are IRS Form 990 (or 990T).*

## ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT

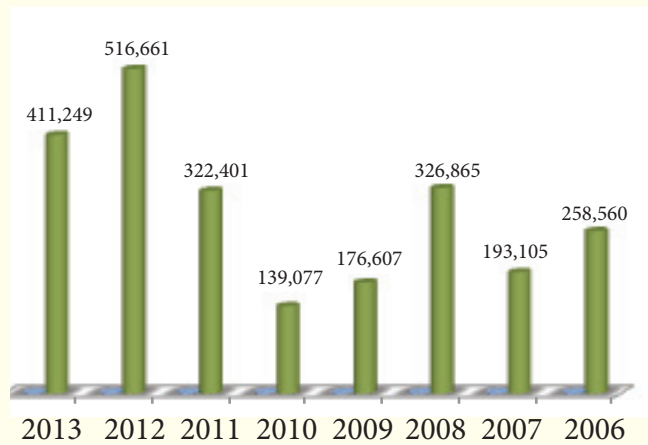


## MANAGED ASSETS BY FUND TYPE

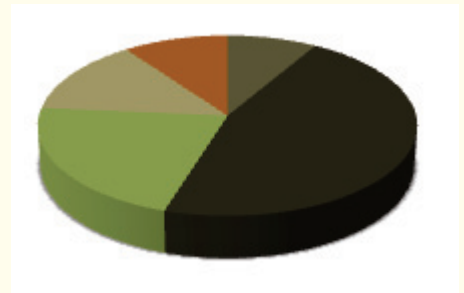


Unrestricted	\$132,437
Donor Advised	\$775,674
Agency Endowments	\$409,151
Field of Interest	\$443,212
Restricted	\$98,241
Other	\$179,861
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,038,576</b>

## CONTRIBUTIONS

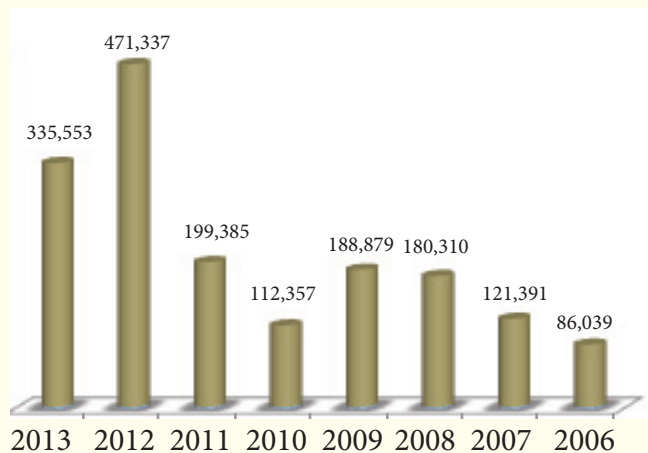


## CONTRIBUTIONS BY FUND TYPE

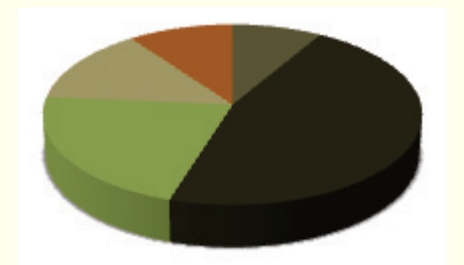


Agency Endowments	\$35,039
Special Projects and Other	\$190,534
Unrestricted/Admin	\$88,679
Field of Interest	\$56,001
Donor Advised	\$40,996
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$411,249</b>

## DISTRIBUTIONS



## GRANTS BY FUND TYPE



Donor Advised	\$73,053
Field of Interest	\$23,123
Unrestricted	\$3,300
Restricted	\$104,785
Other	\$131,292
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$335,553</b>



## FROM THE INVESTMENT CHAIR

The Homer Foundation completed our 22nd year. During this period our investment portfolio lagged the popular averages. Our capital performance has been limited by a large cash position which was held in foreign currencies, anticipating a decline in the dollar, which did not materialize. Our continuing focus on commodities was not the best choice for this fiscal year as the Federal Reserve has continued to pump unprecedented amounts of stimulus into the economy. The stock market was the recipient of much of this liquidity which has elevated valuations on traditional equities to the detriment of our focused groups.

The call strategy worked well in the fall of 2012 but for the whole fiscal year was a disappointment when compared to our outstanding gains in the past. We did manage to generate \$141,128 worth of income from all sources which enabled us to continue meaningful support to a wide variety of agencies and causes in the greater Homer community.

The investment committee has taken steps to facilitate the use of our call strategy in 2013 and we expect to be able to show a decent income return in this fiscal year.

In the first three months of fiscal 2014 we have generated \$ 30,000 credited to income, which annualized, would keep us on track with last year.

We view the recent stock market performance with skepticism but acknowledge that it may continue to perform well in the immediate future. Our main concern is that the economy is not doing well, public and private debt levels are at historic highs and low interest rates are masking an underlying weakness in the economy. Our portfolio is geared to the long term and in the past year our focus has been out of phase with the markets. Only time will tell if our caution has been overdone, but in the meantime we will continue to generate as much current income as our strategies will allow.

Phil Morris, Chair  
Investment Committee

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

2013

## UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Homer Foundation Unrestricted Funds	76,363
Homer Foundation Admin Fund	56,074
Aquila Fund	90,329
<b>Total</b>	<b>222,767</b>

## AGENCY ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Alaska Marine Conservation Council Fund	9,792
Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies Fund	27,544
Friends of the Homer Public Library Fund	83,796
Homer Animal Friends Fund	14,721
Homer Community Food Pantry Fund	10,582
Homer Council on the Arts Fund	10,828
Hospice of Homer Fund	48,108
Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic Fund	10,888
Kachemak Heritage Land Trust Fund	33,916
KBBI-Bev Munro Endowment Fund	33,851
Pratt Museum Fund	34,796
<b>Total</b>	<b>318,822</b>

## FIELD OF INTEREST

A Music Education Fund In Memory of Renda Horn	28,270
Alice Witte Memorial Scholarship Fund	10,246
Ashley J. Logan Fund	54,969
A.W. "Bill" Johnson Teacher Education Scholarship Fund	4,027
Brother Asaiah Bates Fund	8,680
Choices for Teens Fund	14,04
City of Homer Fund	155,78
Constance M. Benston Fund	12,401
Diane Wambach "Shoot for the Stars" Scholarship Fund	3,239
Drew Scalzi Memorial Maritime Scholarship Fund	27,596
Health Care Providers Scholarship Fund	14,525
Homer Community Science Scholarship Fund	19,11
Homer-Kachemak Bay Rotary Club Fund	23,241
Jessica Stevens Memorial Fund	9,856
Kachemak Bay Medical Clinic Scholarship Fund	5,811
Kachemak City Fund	11,314
Kevin Bell & Family Hockey Fund	5,246
Ptarmigan Arts Scholarship Fund	10,039
Rotary Club of Homer Downtown Fund	8,865
Sheldon Youth to Youth Fund	8,529
Spay & Neuter Fund	7,424
<b>Total</b>	<b>443,211</b>

## DONOR ADVISED

Compass Rose Fund	13,038
Daisy Lee Bitter Marine & Coastal Education Fund	14,201
David and Mary Schroer Fund	115,631
Homer Incentive Fund	21,540
Jack and Mary Lentfer Fund	15,934
Jane Little Family Endowment Fund	38,745
JEMCO Fund	11,597
May Benson Charitable Fund	50,670
Steve and Noko Yoshida Fund	56,251
The Cottonwood Fund	54,443
The Gooseberry Fund	12,981
The Jenson Fund	57,091
The KLEPS Fund	76,502
The Tin Roof Fund	163,313
The Willow Fund	73,738
<b>Total</b>	<b>775,674</b>

## OTHER

Repair & Replacement Fund/Kachemak City	89,448
Restricted Funds	98,241
NonCash Assets	-13,344
Earnings Pending Distribution	103,758
<b>Total</b>	<b>278,103</b>

Total Assets Under Management	2,038,577
Less Funds Held for Others	-287,356

<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>1,751,221</b>
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# DONATIONS BY FUND TYPE



Mike Navarre  
 Martha & John Neville  
 Jacqueline Norvell  
 Arlene Ronda  
 Mary & Donald Sanders  
 Robert Schmidt  
 Joy Steward &  
 Stuart Schmutzler  
 Beth & Dave Schroer  
 Victoria Steik  
 Andrea Steward  
 Kira & Sandy Stuart  
 Teresa Sundmark  
 Libby Veasey  
 Susannah Webster  
 Patrick Schneider



## UNRESTRICTED FUNDS:

[Homer Foundation Unrestricted Fund](#)  
 Alaska Community Foundation  
 Anonymous  
 Anonymous  
 Bob Brant  
 BP Foundation  
 Keith Brownsberger  
 Tracie & Eric Brown  
 Judith Nestor &  
 Robert Burns  
 Paul Dungan &  
 Jenny Carroll  
 Nancy Lord &  
 Ken Castner  
 Lucy Cutting  
 Ann & Walter Dixon  
 James & Brenda Dolma  
 Charles Evans  
 Lisa Fellows  
 Katie Gavenus  
 Ben Gibson  
 Steven Glassman & Claudia Haines  
 Michelle Gordon  
 Nell & Rich Gustafson  
 Pauli & Harmon Hall  
 Shawn Hansen  
 IBM Employee Match  
 Margaret Jacobs  
 Jules Joy  
 Tom Kizzia  
 Mel Strydom &  
 Nadya Klingel  
 Bonnie Powell &  
 Blake LaRue  
 Mary & Jack Lentfer  
 Sue Post & Jim Levine  
 Victoria Lord  
 Gary Mandzik  
 Donald Marlatt  
 Mildred Martin  
 Diane & Mike McBride  
 Cathy & Mike McCarthy  
 Karen Berger &  
 Steve McCasland  
 Sandy & Lee McDaniel  
 Jackie McDonough & Thomas McDonough  
 Jo & Peter Michalski  
 Jane Miles  
 Paul Mitchell  
 Pat & Chris Moss  
 Ardith Mumma  
 Megan Murphy



[Julia Park Howard Unrestricted Fund](#)  
 Virginia Howard Mullan & Michael Mullan

[Homer Foundation Admin Fund](#)  
 Vicki & Steve Albert  
 Elaine Grantier  
 Polly Prindle-Hess & Bruce Hess  
 Flo & Peter Larson  
 Shelly & Buck Laukitis  
 Phil Morris  
 Rika & John Mouw  
 Kathy & Mike Pate  
 Bonnie Jason &  
 Dave Schneider  
 Denise & Gordon Pitzman  
 Turid & Ron Senungetuk  
 Carol Swartz & Bob Cole  
 Kathy & Dan Westerburg

## AGENCY ENDOWMENT FUNDS:

[Aquila Fund](#)  
 Ann & Ron Keffer  
 Philemon Morris  
 Julia Clymer  
  
[Bey Munro-KBBI Endowment Fund](#)  
 KBBI  
  
[Hospice of Homer Fund](#)  
 Ole Andersson

[Homer Council on the Arts Fund](#)  
 Homer Council on the Arts

[Homer Community Food Pantry Fund](#)  
 Dick Leirer  
 Philemon Morris  
 Shirley Fedora &  
 Bill Palmer

## FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS:

[Sheldon Youth to Youth Fund for YAC](#)  
 Josephine Schawillie

[Homer Kachemak Bay Rotary Club Fund](#)  
 Homer KB Rotary Club

Kevin Bell & Family Fund  
 Mary Ferguson Bell  
 JoAnn & Don Ferguson  
 Teresa & Neil Ferguson

[Music Education Fund in Memory of Renda Horn](#)  
 E. Margaret Brummell  
 Ann & Ron Keffer  
 Denice & Roger Clyne  
 Julia Clymer

[Spay & Neuter Fund](#)  
 Dick Leirer

## SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS:

[Health Care Providers Scholarship Fund](#)  
 Christine & Deland Anderson  
 Bernadette Arsenaault  
 Anette Avant/Kenai Physical Therapy







Katherine Bechmann  
 Dr. Bobbie Behrens  
 Shari Dautherty  
 Dr. Jim Meesis  
 Karen Northrop &  
 Doug Reid  
 Emilie Otis  
 Dr. Dots Sherwood  
 Dr. Hal Smith  
 South Peninsula Hospital Medical Staff  
 Dr. Ed & Janice Todd  
 Douglas Westphal  
 Dr. Zizi Zoubek

Ptarmigan Arts Scholarship Fund  
 Ptarmigan Arts Gallery

Homer Community Science Scholarship Fund  
 Marga & Dave Raskin

Kachemak Bay Medical Clinic Scholarship Fund  
 Dr. Paul Raymond

Drew Scalzi Memorial Maritime Scholarship Fund  
 Barb Scalzi & Family

Diane Wambach  
"Shoot for the Stars" Scholarship Fund  
 Cheryl & Mike Illg

**DONOR ADVISED FUNDS:**  
Tin Roof Fund  
 Anonymous

Compass Rose Fund  
 Shelly & Buck Laukitis



Jack & Mary Lentfer Fund  
 Mary & Jack Lentfer

The KLEPS Fund  
 Tina & Paul Seaton

**REPAIR & REPLACEMENT FUNDS:**  
 Kachemak City

**PASS THROUGH FUNDS:**  
 Community Asset Building Initiative  
 - Alaska Community Foundation

Homer Playground Project  
 - Anonymous  
 - Miranda Weiss &  
 - Bob Shavelson

City of Homer Grants Program  
 - City of Homer  
 - Kachemak City  
 - Homer Foundation

Best Beginnings Homer  
 - Best Beginnings Alaska

Homer Community Chest  
 - Anonymous  
 - Anonymous  
 - Anonymous  
 - Jacqueline Norvell

HF Youth Advisory Committee  
 - Pauli & Harmon Hall  
 - Beth & Dave Schroer

City of Homer Climate Action Plan  
 - Mary & Jack Lentfer

**IN KIND:**  
 Kathy & Mike Pate  
 Ken Castner  
 Foster & Company  
 Quiet Place Lodge  
 Paul & Harmon Hall  
 Sean & Hilda Maryott  
 Alaska Coastal Marine



*The following is a reprint of a letter to the editor sent by Bill Stevens, father of the late Jessica Stevens, a talented young visual and performing artist.*

Dear Editor,

For the past 20-plus years the Homer Foundation has managed the Jessica Stevens Memorial Fund with care and sensitivity. This has resulted in giving many Homer area youth opportunities to participate and learn in the area of the performing arts, opportunities that they might not have had otherwise.

For 47 years I have been engaged in natural resource exploitation in Alaska, primarily on the Kenai Peninsula. Recent successful exploration and on-going development by Armstrong in the North Fork Unit and by Hilcorp in the Nikoleavsk Unit near Homer are yielding resource royalties. I have committed a portion of my interest in those royalties to the Homer Foundation so that they may continue their good work with local youth through the Jessica Stevens Memorial Fund.

I encourage any other individual, group, or corporate entity benefiting from area resource exploitation to give back to the community through donations to the Homer Foundation.

Bill Stevens



## HALIBUT COVE LIVE: EVENT GROWS, NAME CHANGES

A few years ago the dynamic duo of Pauli and Harmon Hall envisioned using their Quiet Place Lodge in Halibut Cove as a unique music venue. They added the talents of Jazz pianist Dan MacElrath and his Dan Mac Quintet along with gourmet chef Sean Maryott, and Jazz in the Cove was born.

When the Homer Foundation was invited to participate as the nonprofit beneficiary of the event we jumped on board. The following year a second concert was added presenting Jazz pianist Peggy Stern with her trio. In year three we bumped up to three concerts, but not all were Jazz. So what do you do now with a name like Jazz in the Cove? Halibut Cove Live was launched and we've never looked back. You will still find the distinctive black and white Jazz in the Cove banner hanging during the jazz events, but now you will also find 60 matching yellow "Halibut Cove Live" umbrellas, our insurance against inclement weather!

Our 2013 season included something for everyone: Wild Shore Festival for New Music, Todd Grebe & Cold Country, and of





course the Dan Mac Quartet featuring vocals by John “Pypes” Teamer. Guest chefs Carri Thurman, of Two Sisters Bakery & Café, and Frans Weits, of Jack Sprat in Girdwood, created delectable menus for the events.

The Halibut Cove Live concerts have become amazing fund, friend, and awareness raising opportunities for the Homer Foundation. They would not have been possible without the vision and dedication of Pauli and Harmon Hall, their amazing staff at Quiet Place Lodge, our committed volunteers, outstanding musicians, exceptional guest chefs, and generous support from Alaska Coastal Marine.

The Halibut Cove Live series have become the “not to be missed” events of the summer. You won’t want to miss the 2014 season. Watch for information at [HalibutCoveLive.com](http://HalibutCoveLive.com).

On behalf of the Homer Foundation and Halibut Cove Live, we would like to thank-you for participating in one or more of our summer events. We hope you all had as much fun as we did! You helped raise funds and awareness for the Homer Foundation and its cause, bettering the Homer community.



## 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.



# YEAR IN REVIEW



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

- Our generous donors contributed more than \$411,249 to help meet community needs.

- A total of 79 grants and 14 scholarships were awarded.

- The Homer Foundation awarded \$335,553 in total distributions.

- More than 40 volunteers gave their time to help review scholarship and grant applications.

- Through our grants programs, the Homer Foundation partnered with 34 different organizations that provide programs and services to meet community needs.





## FROM YAC

As I threw a quick dinner together last night while worrying about my letter for the annual report, it occurred to me that the success of YAC is much like the success of a good recipe. There are certain key ingredients that are a must, and a little creativity goes a very long way. And so I offer a recipe for the sustainability of YAC:

- One big splash of energetic and enthusiastic kids
- A handful of generous and supportive donors
- A heaping dose of inspiration from a committed board of directors
- A splash of patience and direction from our brilliant executive director
- A sprinkling of nagging from our advisor
- A plentiful supply of community organizations that offer fun, affordable, and easily accessible programs for youth .... and
  
- A pinch of time

As it turns out, that last ingredient has proven the biggest challenge. The kids are busy, and I'm busy. Meetings are postponed as college application deadlines approach, teams travel for sport events, students get overwhelmed with homework, or essays pile up on my desk. We've had to get creative.

So, we've streamlined our processes in order to insure that the time the kids are able to dedicate to YAC is effectively spent and productive. We've narrowed our focus, and built protocols that can be used year after year. We've sought new members who haven't stretched themselves too thin – who have not only the passion, but also the time. And, YAC continues to grow.

We are guided by our mission - to promote philanthropy and improve the quality of life for the youth of our community. But, just like a favorite recipe that evolves over time, so does YAC. Each year, new members bring new ideas, new priorities, and new energy that will lead us into the future. Veteran YAC member, Katherine Dolma, will take over as head chef in the coming year, and we're spicing things up by welcoming students from Homer Middle School into our program. Sounds like a recipe for success.

Bonnie Jason, YAC Advisor

THE HOMER FOUNDATION  
PO Box 2600  
Homer, AK 99603

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OR CURRENT RESIDENT

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*The* **HOMER**  
FOUNDATION

**TO FIND OUT MORE**

**web site: [www.homerfund.org](http://www.homerfund.org)**

**e-mail: [info@homerfund.org](mailto:info@homerfund.org)**

**Phone: 907-235-0541**

**Fax: 907-235-2021**