

# Legacy



**GPCF Presents \$14,000 to PYSA** - Toni Young, Penny Jarecki, Jeanette Phillips & John Cowan GPCF, Heidi Howell, Mike Moll, Sarah Beck Smith, PYSA and the 18U Girls Soccer and 18U Boys Soccer.

## Buck Young Scholarships Awarded

This year scholarships are being awarded to Tanner Wilson, Cassie Carlyle, and Mikayla Croft, each of whom has displayed all of the qualities Buck tried to teach students he coached.

The Buck Young Memorial Scholarship is one of several directed gifts that is managed by GPCF. The scholarship was started four years ago by his family and friends and is offered through the Greater Polson Community Foundation in memory of Buck Young, who had a lifelong love of sports, teaching sports, and volunteering. The scholarship is awarded to a Polson High School student who exhibits not only teamwork and sportsmanship, but a sense of community volunteerism as well.

Applicants must be a Polson High School senior or graduate who attends any accredited two-year, four-year or vocational postsecondary school. They must have been a leader in their school and an outstanding example of community service in his/her community and must have competed in at least two different varsity sports in high school.

## Because We Love Making a Difference in our Community!

Greater Polson Community Foundation (GPCF) learned that Polson Youth Soccer Association (PYSA) was short \$84,000 to finish the concession stand they had started with a grant from Polson's Rotary Club, the fences surrounding the complex of four regulation fields, and the parking lot to handle the cars, RV's, and school buses that accompany soccer teams for games and tournaments.

GPCF Board members met with PYSA and offered to match funds up to \$28,000 if they could raise \$56,000 by August 4, 2017. We are thrilled to announce that PYSA has reached just over the halfway mark of \$29,000! GPCF recently handed them a check for \$14,000 to complete the project.

Two of the PYSA fields opened for play in late April with small tournaments that garnered rave reviews from visiting teams. These fields will bring in teams from all over Montana and neighboring states Idaho and Washington and will have an economic impact on Polson and the Mission Valley.

You are welcome to help PYSA reach the final Challenge Match goal with gifts directly to PYSA, P. O. Box 1337, Polson, MT 59860, or through the PYSA website where you can make donations through PayPal or with your credit card. Or if you prefer, you can send a check made payable to GPCF with PYSA on the "for" line on your check through GPCF directed gifts; P. O. Box 314, Polson, MT 59860.

## Annual Dinner

Mark your calendars for the annual *Passion for Polson* dinner which will be celebrated on Friday, August 4, 2017 on the new Polson Youth Soccer fields in the Ridgewater Subdivision. Enjoy stunning views of the Mission Mountains and Flathead Lake from the Community Field that was sponsored by GPCF. Join us for dinner, dancing and a silent and live auction called by our favorite auctioneer, Bobby Roshon. Invitations will be in the mail in June. Call the GPCF office at 406-883-4723 if you don't receive your invitation.



**A Grant from GPCF** to the North Lake County Public Library in 2016 purchased Legos for creative learning. Legos provide tools that develop lateral thinking in a fun environment, teach kids to think in three dimensions, improve literacy as kids work with instructions, and develops problem-solving, organization, and planning by construction, and boosts kids motor development.

## *Vision Statement*

We facilitate and invest in the development of a robust and welcoming community where all have the opportunity to be healthy, educated, creative, productive, and prosperous.

## **Board Retirements**

As of December 31, 2016, Penny Jarecki and George Barce have officially retired from the GPCF Board of Directors. Both have served the foundation board for nine years which is the maximum term limit. The board asked both George and Penny to continue in an advisory capacity on the Grants Committee and both have agreed. We definitely will miss their leadership but know we can use them in an advisory capacity. Penny will serve as President Emeritus. Saying "Thanks" is not nearly enough for all the work and guidance they have each put into growing GPCF into what it is today.

### **GPCF Board of Directors**

Toni Krebsbach Young, President

Dave Abell, Vice President

Dorothy Ashcraft, Secretary

John Cowan, Treasurer

Directors: Jake Baumann, Debbie Larson, Lou Marchello, John Mercer, Jeanette Phillips, Garry Pitts, Shauna Rubel, Roger Smith, Marcus Vergeront.

## **2017 GPCF Grants Workshop**

GPCF was delighted with the turnout for the Grant Applications Workshop on March 23. Twenty-four non-profits attended. Toni Young (GPCF President), Dave Abell (VP), John Cowan (Treasurer) and Roger Smith (Chair of the Grants Committee) shared information and answered questions.

Following the Workshop, GPCF received 23 applications for 2017 grants. Competition for funds increased this year and grant requests are nearly double available funds.

The grant cycle was moved earlier than previous years for 2017 with April 28 as the application deadline. The Grants Committee will be making recommendations to the GPCF board with decisions by mid-June. A growing GPCF endowment and increased donations will allow GPCF, through its careful grant-making process, to meet additional community needs.

Non-profits and their many volunteers are essential to our community. GPCF grants to non-profits help improve our community's health, economic and cultural strengths, leadership, education and general well-being. Their work, and ours, continues.

## **Envision Polson's Beautification Committee**

The Beautification Committee has been very busy coordinating clean up of the area around Polson. The first weekend in May was Clean Up, Green Up for Polson. On Friday volunteers manned the Atrium of the North Lake County Public Library where they handed out neon vests, gloves, cookies, water and clean up assignments. Polson School had kids out picking up trash in areas surrounding their schools, various organizations and businesses as well as individuals picked up trash on roads leading into our beautiful community. This year through the efforts of Penny Jarecki, Judy Preston, and Greg Hertz a program using non-violent offenders in Lake County who have jail time to serve can opt to spend hours picking up trash in lieu of that jail time. The Lake County Jail suffers from a backlog of folks who need to serve their sentences due to lack of space. Lake County Sheriff Don Bell worked with the courts and the Beautification Committee to help identify folks who could choose to work with our Clean Up, Green Up program in exchange for jail time. The program works very well for Clean Up and plans are underway to have Clean Up happen more than once each year on our major roadways. The program can be used by any non-profit organization who needs help with projects through the Lake County Sheriff's department.

## Polson Chamber of Commerce Basket Donors

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Opening Day at the Soccer Fields

### Needs of Our Community

The GPCF Board has developed committees to help us focus on the evolving needs of our community. Over the next few months we will be reaching out to local organizations to:

Collaborate and Establish Partnerships

Promote Philanthropy

Inspire Community Pride and Unity

Collaborate and Partner with Others

Financially Support Initiatives that Build our Community



## Contact Us



Greater Polson  
Community  
Foundation

P.O. Box 314  
Polson, MT 59860  
(406) 883-GPCF (4723)  
gpcf4723@gmail.com  
greaterpolsoncommunityfoundation.org

## GPCF Donors

November 1, 2016 to May 1 2017

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