

The Steven D. Stinson Leadership in Natural Resources Scholarship

The Scholarship

In May 2014, at the WFFA Annual Meeting, Rene' Ancinas, President and CEO of Port Blakely Companies, announced that, as part of their 150 year anniversary celebration, Port Blakely Companies was giving \$20,000 to Washington Farm Forestry Association to set up a scholarship fund. The fund is managed by WFFA for members and their descendants who are attending college to study in a natural resources field.

Naming the Scholarship

In July 2014, Steve Stinson, one of our strongest advocates for small forest landowners in Washington State, lost his two-year battle with cancer. Port Blakely and WFFA, in consultation with the Stinson Family, named the scholarship in recognition of Steve's leadership and contributions in the field of forestry in general and tree farming in particular. On April 30, 2015, the Scholarship Committee was formed to manage the scholarship and award annual scholarships to qualified applicants. The Committee members are Elaine Oneil, Lou Jean Clark, Norma Green, Chuck Higgins, Larry Mason and Court Stanley.

Due to the many generous donations from WFFA members and other contributions, we are pleased to announce we are at an amount where the scholarship fund has become perpetual with only the interest from the account needed to generate generous annual scholarship opportunities. We continue to receive funds directed towards the scholarship fund, and as of this printing we are at \$92,752. Donations to the fund may be made at any time. Please mail your check (made payable to WFFA) to WFFA, PO Box 1010, Chehalis, WA 98532. Make a specific note that it is for the Stinson Scholarship.

2018 Steven D. Stinson Leadership in Natural Resources Scholarship Award Recipient

This year we are proud to award one scholarship to a qualified, deserving applicant for the Stinson Scholarship.

Mr. Erik Kemp has been selected to receive a \$3,000 scholarship. Erik is the son of Bill and Janet Kemp, Life Members of WFFA, from Newport, Washington. He is currently attending Brigham Young University (BYU) and is majoring in Wildlife and Wildlands Conservation. Erik's goals include getting his master's degree in Wildlife and Wildlands Conservation and an eventual career working for the government in natural resources. To date, Erik's favorite class has been Forest Management and Ecology. In this class, he enjoyed not only learning to identify 100 different trees with their genus and species, but also learning how to cruise timber and measure canopy cover. He is currently working for BYU as a Wildlife Technician where he collects and organizes data from Mule Deer GPS collars, manages wildlife blood samples and compiles tail camera data. Erik believes, "The future of family forests depends on associations like the Washington Farm Forestry Association to keep them alive and running properly. It has been an amazing experience as my dad and I have gone to field days and learned so many things that we did not know before, that we then apply to our forested land." Erik has really appreciated the support of the WFFA and he looks forward to being an active member in the future.

