The John D. Hamilton Award is given annually to an individual who has shown dedication, leadership and support in furthering community spirit and enriching the quality of life in the Chautauqua Region.

Mrs. Helen G. Ebersole, this year’s recipient, demonstrates community spirit through her enduring commitment to the many organizations she has been involved in through the years and her extensive research and written history of our region. Her actions teach the value of community service and preserve the past for future generations. And just like any skillful teacher, she has captured and educated the Chautauqua Community with tales of the past to be held for the future.

Her contributions to our region through her diligent research, writing, and charming ways have left a documented legacy for our community that is immeasurable. Helen has published several newspaper and magazine articles, as well as books, highlighting local topics. Book titles include: *Trolleys of Jamestown and Chautauqua Lake, Electricity and Politics in Jamestown 1891-1931, Chautauqua Lake Hotels* and the very recently published *An ImPRESSive Record: Jamestown Journal-1826 to 1941*. Her in-depth and perceptive style has brought a lasting gift of history to our region.

Although she states that her “career has been that of wife, mother and homemaker,” teacher and historian need to be added to the list. She is a natural teacher through her various writings. She brings history to life for both young and old with her poignant descriptions and enthusiasm for the topics presented.

Born and raised in Ohio, she eventually found her way to Juniata College, Huntingdon, PA, where she earned a teaching certificate and a degree in English. Having lived in various locations in Ohio, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, Helen and her husband, Dr. Glen, settled in Lakewood with their children, David, Mark, Kathleen and Daniel, in 1963.

As the 24th recipient of the Axel W. Carlson “Unsung Hero” Award, Lorri Huckelbery’s volunteerism speaks volumes of her caring nature and dedication to children and literacy. Beginning as a teenager in Ann Arbor, Michigan, Lorri volunteered at the University of Michigan Medical Center’s Pediatric Ward, helping the staff care for the infants and assisting the older children with their homework and physical therapy.

As time passed, Lorri graduated from SUNY at Fredonia with her degree in Elementary Education and began her family. While raising her two sons, Jon and Chuck, she taught Sunday School at First Presbyterian Church, volunteered at Ring Elementary and Washington Middle Schools, and was active in the Jamestown Area Midget Football League and the Eastside Midget Team parent group. Yet, she still found time to collect for the Heart Association, United Way and March of Dimes.

Once her family and work obligations subsided, Lorri’s volunteerism became more intense. Today, Lorri is a Board of Director and Secretary of the Falconer Rotary Club as well as its Literacy Chairperson. Lorri arranges for every needy elementary school child and their families in the Falconer School District to receive new Scholastic books at Christmas time. With these activities, funds need to be raised; and Lorri is right there raising the necessary money to accommodate the purchase of these books. Lorri is also very active with the Sinclairville Library as its Board Vice President and supporting activities.

If that wasn’t enough, through RSVP, Lorri assists a variety of local non-profit organizations when called upon.

Lorri, congratulations on being selected the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation’s 2009 Axel W. Carlson Award Recipient.

Thank you, Lorri, for all you do for our community!
NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pamela D. Stelmach:

Pamela is the Vice President of Sales & Marketing for Allied Alarm Services, Inc. She belongs to the Rotary Club of Greater Jamestown AM serving as a Board Member; Chautauqua Leadership Network, Board of Directors; and Bemus Point United Methodist Church, Administrative Board, Staff Parish Relations Committee and Capital Campaign Committee.

Jennifer L. Harkness:

Jennifer is the Senior Vice Pres./Senior District Executive of Northwest Savings Bank/Jamestown Savings Bank. Her affiliations include: Rotary Club of Jamestown, Jamestown Strategic Planning & Partnerships Commission, DJDC, Jamestown Renaissance Corp., United Way of Southern Chautauqua and the Gebbie Foundation Community Committee.

Michael C. Bird:

Originally from California, Mike is Publisher of The Post-Journal and Regional Publisher for The Post-Journal, Dunkirk Observer, Warren Times Observer and Westfield Republican Publications since 2006. Mike is involved in the Rotary Club of Jamestown, YMCA of Jamestown, Southern Chautauqua United Travel Soccer and New York State Publishers Association.

Denise R. Jones:

Denise, born and raised in Jamestown, is the Chief Operating Officer of The Resource Center. She holds membership in the Hillcrest Baptist Church, Treasurer; TRC Foundation; Filling the Gap; Team Services; New Vision Services; Connections, Inc.; Community Inclusion, Inc.; and Chautauqua Resources.

New Funds

The Judson Fellowship’s Burchard, Barry, Wilcox Endowment Fund

This designated fund established by members of the Judson Fellowship, an American Baptist Church, is to provide financial assistance to the Bridge Program participants at Jamestown Community College. It is in honor of Mary Agnes Burchard, a doctor; Elda Mae Barry, a nurse, and Rosemary Wilcox, a teacher.

Through education and positive change, the Bridge Program serves the needs of eligible students.

Alvin “Ben” and Marlyn “Molly” Griffith Memorial Fund

This designated fund was established to support the Farman Free Library and Ellington Fire Department. Alvin and Marlyn’s son and daughter-in-law, John and Mary Jane Griffith, created the fund in September 2008.

Francis G. “Mac” McCoy Office for the Aging Memorial Fund

Established to benefit the charitable mission of the Chautauqua County Office for the Aging, the Francis G. "Mac" McCoy Office for the Aging Memorial Fund is designed to provide financial assistance to enhance and expand services to help those seniors most at risk or in need in our community.

Mac relentlessly sought out ways to help our aging population. Always the advocate for the senior members of our county, “Mac’s” efforts have become legendary in Chautauqua County and at the State level.

Dr. Phoebe A. Thies Memorial Scholarship Fund

To memorialize their mother, the children of Dr. Phoebe A. Theis, Dan, Michael, Jackie and Patricia, established the Dr. Phoebe A. Theis Memorial Scholarship Fund. As a result of her belief in lifelong learning, the fund is to assist an adult student who is furthering their education to improve their career opportunities after an absence from school.

Charles E. Bartkowiak Memorial Scholarship Fund

Dave and Chris Bartkowiak established this fund in memory of Dave’s uncle, Charles E. Bartkowiak. The fund’s purpose is to award an individual who reflects the real-life circumstances of Charles. The criteria for this fund is to assist a Chautauqua Region High School graduate over the age of 40 with costs related to education as a result of a change in career.

J. Daniel Pauley Memorial Scholarship Fund

In honor of J. Daniel Pauley, his family established a memorial scholarship fund. Recognizing his passion for baseball, Mr. Pauley’s family established the fund to assist a Jamestown High School male and/or female senior attending an accredited college or university who has excelled in baseball and/or softball each of their high school years.
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On behalf of the Board of Directors and Staff, we thank all the above donors for their support and belief in the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation.
New Members

Persons who have “demonstrated a knowledge and understanding of the educational, cultural, civic, or charitable needs of the Chautauqua Region” are eligible to be elected as members of Chautauqua Region Community Foundation. Recently, at our Annual Meeting, four individuals were elected as new members. They were: Leslie A. Brown, Julie M. Ellis, Joelle R. Conti and Lewis D. Meckley. Their initial three-year terms began July 2009.

Congratulations! We look forward to working with you all.

...Just think about it...

We have witnessed, through history, that one person can make a difference. Keep in mind that just one scholarship to a struggling student can make a big difference to a child who needs those few extra dollars for books but also as a confirmation that someone believes in them.

Consider making a donation to your favorite fund or create one of your own. The future is in your hands.

You can make a difference!

(Ebersole from page 1) Among her various volunteer activities, Mrs. Ebersole has been Lakewood’s Village Historian since 1993 and directed the recent $800,000 Lakewood Library renovation.

Also included in this list is: The Fenton Historical Society, Southwestern Central School Board, Jamestown Community Concert Board, Chautauqua County Arts Council, Creche, Inc., Chautauqua County Planning Board and the United Way of Southern Chautauqua County.

Helen G. Ebersole emulates the love and support John D. Hamilton had for our community. It is indeed an honor to present the John D. Hamilton Community Service Award to Helen G. Ebersole in gratitude and respect for years of guidance as a historian and as a community’s teacher.

A Fish Tale!

The following story is from Marianne Naylor, niece of Bea and Bob McKenzie who established the Bea and Bob “Mac” McKenzie Aviation Scholarship Fund.

When Marianne Naylor was growing up, her Aunt Bea and Uncle Bob, avid fishermen, would take her fishing. During her initial introduction to the sport, her uncle made sure Marianne was all setup with holding the pole correctly, explaining the function of the various parts. Once he felt she understood, he stepped back and said “Now throw it in!” Being the obedient niece, she did; she threw in the whole fishing pole - just like he said. But as you know, it wasn’t exactly what he meant. That day, Bob and Bea did some fishing but not for the aquatic vertebrate as planned, but for the lost pole!

Stan Lundine Health Care Professional Workforce Fund

In 1994, Stan Lundine founded the Chautauqua County Health Network, which is dedicated to strengthening the local health and wellness delivery system in our region. In honor of Stan as their first Executive Director, who retired in 2007, CCHN established a fund in his name. The Stan Lundine Health Care Professional Workforce Fund is to be used for any number of strategies necessary to advance, recruit and retain health care professionals in Chautauqua County, which is so crucial to our rural health care system.

Stan, known for being an advocate for regionalization, has had a long and successful career in the political arena effecting change for our County, as well as New York State.
Scholarship Notes:

October 20 - College Expo at JCC
Late November - All applicants will be notified of the results of their applications.
January - Upon receipt of the Verification of Enrollment letter, payment will be made to students for second semester expenses.

Upcoming Events:

Legacy Society Members Luncheon:
October 15, 2009
CRCF Open House: November 12th