

## **GLADSTONE SCHOLARSHIP & STUDENT LOAN FOUNDATION**

The Gladstone Scholarship & Student Loan Foundation was organized in 1959. Superintendent Wallace Cameron and school board member Clair Hoehn developed a set of by-laws for incorporation as a nonprofit organization.

The first door-to-door drive for funds, held April 13-18, netted \$5000 with 1,157 individual memberships, twenty-three organizational memberships, and memorial funds. During its first year of operation, the fund provided ten loans. The loans were repayable without interest if the borrower begins and maintains regular payments not more than one year after graduation from college.

The first officers were Reuben Sjoquist, president; Elmer Feldt, treasurer; and Marjorie Ohman, secretary. Clair Hoehn provided the legal advise.

The corporate trust was formed with interest realized returned annually to the Gladstone Scholarship & Student Loan Foundation.

### **Gladstone Centennial History**

Since 1959, \$1,529,00.00 has been loaned to approximately 1,500 GAHS graduates.

A tremendous boast was given to the scholarship fund with the bequest of \$422,192 from the estate of Ralph and Lily Rains, former owners of the Ben Franklin store in Gladstone.

### **Century Club Drive**

Besides the Memorial funds that have sustained the Foundation over the years, an annual fundraising campaign is done each year in December. The Century Club drive asks for a donation of \$100.00. This is the only fundraising activity that the Foundation does. If you would like to make a donation to the Century Club or would like more information about the Foundation please contact:

Gladstone Scholarship & Student Loan Foundation  
P.O. Box 135  
Gladstone, Mi 49837

### **Loans and Scholarships**

Each year the Foundation makes interest free loan to GAHS graduates. An individual cannot receive more than four loans from the Foundation. Applications for the loans are taken on a yearly basis. The application is available through the High School Guidance department – usually towards the end of May. The maturity date is twelve (12) months after graduation or the individual ceases to be at least a full-time undergraduate or graduate student. If an individual has more than one loan with the Foundation they will be paid off successively. This means that a student with three loans must repay one loan per year for three years, on an interest free basis. When an individual does not meet his obligation to repay on a timely basis, the individual will pay a seven (7%) annual rate on the unpaid balances.

The obligations of students to repay the loans are guaranteed by the student's parents. In the event of student default, the Foundation will expect the parent to repay the obligation.

Besides providing interest free loans for approximately 80-100 students each year, the foundation also awards scholarships during the Senior Awards Banquet. The Foundation is responsible for the scholarships awarded to the top 10 students from the graduating class. Scholarships are also awarded based on the specification of the memorials.

## **Scholarship Bios**

### **Ralph & Lily Rains**

Ralph and Lily Rains came to Gladstone in 1937 and established a Ben Franklin store. In 1948, Ralph purchased and developed more than 4.5 miles of Stonington shoreline on Little Bay De Noc. It was evident that he was interested in helping youth for he and his wife left their state worth over \$400,000 to the Foundation.

### **Elmer & Albertine Beaudry**

Elmer was a lifelong Gladstone resident. He owned the Chevrolet garage in Gladstone. His wife, Albertine, operated the first out door drive-in theater in the area. The foundation received two gifts totaling \$10,000 from his wife and sons Ralph and Lyle.

### **Ethel Larson**

Ethel was born and raised in Gladstone. She graduated from Gladstone High School in 1918, taught school in Detroit, and returned to Gladstone when she retired. Her wishes were that the scholarship included the names of her brothers and is known as the Ethel, Carl, Hilding and Walter Larson Scholarship.

### **Doris Becvar**

Doris served for many years as the bookkeeper for the Gladstone Scholarship & Loan Foundation. All of Doris' children graduated from GAHS.

### **James Marmalick**

Jim was graduate of the Class of '71. The son of Billie and Tony Marmalick both GAHS graduates. Jim taught special education in the lover peninsula town of Beal City. First preference for this scholarship is given to a student interested in pursuing a degree in special education.

### **E.J. Gordon**

Dr. Gordon practiced medicine in Delta County for many years.

### **John F. Greenes**

The John Greenes scholarships are offered to GAHS graduates who are entering their junior year in college who have attained a 2.20 grade point average. It is renewable if the grade point is maintained. Lillian green taught for many years at the Jones School. Son John and his wife Jeanne (Pearce) are GAHS alumnus.

**Edna Fulton Louis Boydston**

Edna is a graduate of GAHS class of 1928. She has been a lifelong resident of Gladstone. Edna worked for Michigan Bell Telephone Company in a supervisory capacity.

**Blondina Louis Peterson**

A lifelong resident of Gladstone and graduate of GAHS Class of '29, Blondina enjoyed gardening, hunting, and fishing throughout her life. This scholarship is given to a GAHS graduate with a nursing preference who will be attending Bay College

**Glenfield/ Wedar**

Violet Glenfiled graduated from GAHS in 1918. She worked many years at the Gladstone State Savings Bank now known as Baybank. Her sister, Idna Wedar, graduated from Gladstone in 1920. She too spent her years in Gladstone.

**Elaine Schram Gorlitz**

Elaine graduated from GAHS in 1947. She resided in lover Michigan with her husband, Ray, until their retirement. Elaine worked for Michigan Bell. When they returned to Gladstone, Elaine was very active in the community.

**Christine Rabitoy**

A 1952 graduate of Gladstone High School, Christine graduated from college, returned to Gladstone, and taught for many years at Cameron Elementary School.

**Child's Welfare Club**

This organization served the needs of children of Gladstone for over eighty years until disbanding in 2002. The scholarship is restricted to a graduating senior who is interested in teaching, social work, or nursing.