



The Founders Fund, Inc.  
707 Gulf Park Drive  
Naples, Florida 34108

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# NEWS & Views

March 2010

The Founders Fund, Inc. • 707 Gulf Park Drive • Naples, Florida 34108 • 239-593-0124

## The Founders Fund, Inc. MISSION

*The mission of this charitable activity of the members of The Club Pelican Bay is to provide financial assistance to young men and women from Collier County in their pursuit of post high school education and training. Recipients are selected on the basis of need and merit from the ten high schools of Collier County.*

*The Founders Fund was created in 1991 by the Founding Golf Members of The Club Pelican Bay, a private golf club. The Internal Revenue Service has classified The Founders Fund as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, tax-exempt charitable organization.*

*The Founders Fund is supported by both Golf and Social Members of The CLUB, as well as many corporate sponsors which include prominent local and national businesses that are very generous in their support of The Founders Fund. Income from reserve assets and fundraising activities supports annual scholarship grants of approximately \$180,000 per year. Fund scholarship awards have totaled more than \$1,800,000.*



## Ed Brennan Memorial Golf Tournament

April 12, the date of the 2010 Biennial Ed Brennan Memorial Golf Tournament, is fast approaching. As the major fundraising event for the \$180,000 needed annually to support our 87 students receiving Founders Fund scholarships, we are all looking forward to the tournament, however, there are still some needs to be met in order to make it a true success and meet our budget.

There is still time to get involved; items are needed for the live auction and silent auction. These donations are being accepted up until the day of the event. Some of the silent auction items that have been donated thus far include a vacation at Bay Hill with two rounds of golf, a golf package for four at Calusa pines, and golf for four including caddies and lunch at Olde Florida Golf Club. If you would like to help by creating a package of golf at your club or some other innovative vacation, we would love to have it.



Support can also be shown through sponsoring a hole, which can be done in honor of or in memory of someone special to you. Another way to become involved is to become a player and show off your swing for a good cause. There are two shotgun starts to the tournament, the first at 8:15 a.m. and the second at 1:00 p.m.

This event will be a great day – golf, raffle, auctions, dinner and great company. Your contribution may be the one that puts us over the top – we hope you choose to get involved.

## Founders Golf Tournament



Monday, April 12 • 2010  
The Club Pelican Bay

## Mark your calendar and plan to play!

Plans are underway for 2010 Biennial Ed Brennan Golf Tournament. The competition will be held on Monday, April 12, 2010 at The Club Pelican Bay with two shotgun starts: 8:15 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

There is still plenty of room available for players and sponsors of the great event which is the main fundraiser for the organization's efforts to assist Collier County students achieve their dreams of higher education.

An auction will be held following the golf tournament. Donations for the auction are being accepted until April 12th. Pidge Weir, Coe Gutowsky and Clara Marks have accepted the job of raffle co-chairs; we appreciate their help in filling this big role.

To support this organization, sponsor, donate or participate in the auction or golf tournament, call Sue Davenport at 239-597-2244 or email her at Suecpb@aol.com.

## Let's play golf!



## 2009/2010 Trustees

Ray Crisci, Chairman  
George Gibson, Treasurer  
Chris Carlson  
Lee Dayton  
Kay Drolet  
Leo Flanagan  
Coe Gutowsky  
Jon Homstad  
Wayne Kent  
Tom Lear  
Clara Marks  
Tom McCarty  
Sue McNaghten  
Frank Morley  
Gene Murphy  
Pidge Weir

## 2010 Sponsors

Bigham Jewelers  
Brennan Family  
DallePezze Foundation  
Donahue Foundation  
Kelly Foundation  
M & I Wealth Management  
Mercedes of Naples  
PNC Preferred Travel  
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(as of 2-25-10)

CONTACT  
The Founders Fund:  
Call 239-593-0124 or email  
FoundersFund@aol.com

## Message from the Chairman of the Board

*Ray Crisci*



We are closing in on the major fundraising event for the scholarship program established by our Club and carried out through The Founders Fund. On April 12th, we will continue the tradition of sharing with the community where we enjoy our golf and social activities.

In 2011, The Founders Fund will celebrate its 20th anniversary. Many of the members of this Club have served as Trustees or fundraisers for this successful program, yet only about half of the members choose to participate. Our goal is to reach out to the full membership and say "we need your help." This program showcases who we are! We occupy one of the finest pieces of real estate in all of Naples for which we are blessed and grateful. Will you help us show our community our philanthropic intent?

Please participate in our Golf Event this year; if you cannot play, your contribution as a benefactor is still needed. There are currently 87 children on scholarships; last year the average family income of the students receiving awards was \$23,000. Will you do your part?

Become a FAN. The Founders Fund, Inc. is now on  
[www.facebook.com/pages/The-Founders-Fund-Inc](http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Founders-Fund-Inc)

**facebook**

## HOLE SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

### Be a HOLE Sponsor for only \$500.

If you are part of a golf group, you may consider collecting \$20 or \$25 per player and have your group sponsor a hole. You may also want to sponsor a hole in honor of or in memory of someone.



To take advantage of this opportunity, please call  
Sue Davenport, 593-0124 or Leo Flanagan, 597-1420.

*Thank you!*

## Benefactors 2010

*Thank you!*

Frank and Karla Albanese  
John and Sandra Beeman  
John and Barb Bloomstrom  
Casper and Phyllis Bocina  
Judy Brennan  
Rocky and Addie Caldwell  
Bruce and Chris Carlson  
Pat and Gerry Carroll  
John and Maureen Cauley  
Bill and Jackie Corbett  
Jim and Carole Crane  
Ray and Anne Crisci  
Dan and Jane Cronin  
Jack and Cheryl Cullen  
Doug and Janet Danforth  
Lee and Graeme Dayton  
Roy DeCambra  
Doug and Dorry Dillon  
Ed and Pam Dixon  
Barry and Joanne Dougherty  
Kay Drolet  
Bill and Brenda Dugan  
Paul and Marge Duncan  
Jim and Lee Elsesser  
Rick and Pat Ermler  
Nick and Carole Feagler  
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Al and Mille Holtz  
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Quentin and Liz Kennedy  
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David and Jane Kondracke  
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Marie Macchiaroli  
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Lee and Mary Markquart  
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Tom and Ruth Ann McCarty  
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Sam and Kay McCullough  
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James and Janet O'Connor  
Jake and Nancy O'Donnell  
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Mary Osborn  
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Richard and Christine Spillane  
Jack and Deta Stafford  
Art and Nancy Ann Stagnaro  
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Jack and Carol Strong  
Robert and Arlene Subin  
Val Sullivan  
Bob and Judy Swearingen  
Joseph and Mary Jane Tavalacci  
Jim and Judy Thomas  
George and Joan Thomas  
Tim and Sharon Ubben  
Bill Umphred  
Harry and Mary Lou Van Ben-schoten  
Dick and Janet Van DeVelde  
Michael and Pidge Weir  
Jerry and Judy Wensinger  
Jerry and Enid Weygandt  
Larry and Gail White  
Jim and Linda Wiggins  
Tom and Mary Williams  
Bill and Lynn Wood

## Colleges 2009/2010

Following is a list of colleges where our students are currently in attendance.

Barnard College  
College of the Holy Cross  
Denison University  
Eckerd College  
Edison State College  
FGCU  
Flagler College  
Florida Atlantic University  
Florida Institute of Technology  
Florida International University  
Florida State University  
Hope College  
Mercer University



New College of Florida  
Princeton University  
Santa Fe Community College  
Smith College  
Stetson University  
University of Central Florida  
University of Florida  
University of Miami  
University of North Florida  
University of South Florida  
University of Tampa  
Valencia Community College  
Vanderbilt University



## One perspective on our December Luncheon

By Ray Crisci

This year's student luncheon was the best ever. Each year we ask the students to attend a luncheon and update the Trustees and benefactors that are in town on their progress. We had 39 students in attendance for the December luncheon.

One young lady stood up and said she was our Polish student. She emigrated from Poland five years ago and is studying to be a nurse at FGCU. She has had some medical issues herself, but is back on track to complete her studies and excited about her career choice.

We have a young man who is a senior who plans to be a neurologist and he explained the studies he is a part of in the research of the brain.

Another young man did a mission trip to Haiti this summer and spoke for several minutes about how fortunate we are and how he saw children who waited all day hoping to get a meal or a drink of water. (And this was before the earthquake).

We have a young woman who is completing her studies in criminal justice and has been accepted by the State Police; she plans to be a homicide detective.

Their stories are compelling and it is only possible because of you. So many of these students are the first generation of their family to attend college. You walk away from the luncheon inspired and optimistic about the future of America when you hear our students speak, and it is all possible because of your generosity.



## Scholarships – our ultimate goal

By Sue McNaghten, Scholarship Chair

Golf tournaments, auctions, raffles, sponsorships and Benefactor donations are the means used to make the dream of a college education come true for the hundreds of students The Founders Fund has assisted since 1991. The scholarship chairpersons are responsible for devising and implementing the process needed to identify these students. Criteria for applicants and the application form itself have been developed and refined over the years.

The newest wrinkle, required by the Collier County Public Schools, is posting of the application on our recently developed web site which is linked to CCPS's listing of available scholarships for students.

Key to recruiting student applicants is the relationship The Founders Fund has built with guidance counselors from the ten high schools our future scholarship winners attend. Since screening hundreds of potential applications by our volunteer Board would be an insurmountable task, counselors are invaluable assistants. We just finished contacting each school to see if the same counselor we worked with last year was again assigned responsibility for graduating seniors. We then invited them to an orientation breakfast at The CLUB in early February to discuss their role in the application process. Counselors will guide students toward appropriate scholarship possibilities and assist them in completing application requirements. After all the paperwork has been submitted, counselors screen all our applications so only eight to ten are forwarded for The Founders Fund to review.

## Donate stock to The Founders Fund

For the record, several members have donated stock to The Founders Fund for their annual donation. If you have appreciated equities with a low cost basis, you would benefit by donating to The Founders Fund and having the stock sold by the tax exempt foundation.

Generally, you can deduct the full fair market value of the stock you contribute to The Founders Fund. Your donation must be stock that you have held for one or more years in order for it to be a tax benefit to you. If you have questions or would like to discuss... drop us an email or give us a call.

## COLLEGE FACTS AND TRIVIA

- 75% of college students maintain jobs while attending school, making on average \$645 per month.
- On average, a student spends over \$13,000 per year.
- Students spend over \$11 billion a year on snacks and beverages.
- 90% of students own a computer, 62% a stereo, 77% a cell phone, 77% a printer, and 84% a television.
- A first year student will spend approximately \$850 on textbooks, though some majors (i.e. media and performing arts, engineering) may have other expenses as well.



*We get emails ...*

## From our Scholarship Recipients



"First of all, thank you so much to all of the amazing sponsors to this awesome organization. Without it I would not be reading the books in front of me now, nor enrolled in the classes I am. I have the honor of being a student at The University of Florida and in my last year of undergrad. I will graduate in December with my Elementary Education degree and continue on for one more year to get my masters. Last semester I received all A's, and at this prestigious institution that is not an easy road. This is going to be an awesome adventure to finish all of my undergrad with the help of such wonderful and generous individuals. Thank you again! Go Gators!"

– Lauren E. Berry



"As a senior at FGCU, I am excited to be graduating in May. I actually cannot wait; I will be the first person in my family to graduate from college and I know my family is excited too! However, this semester is going to be tough for my family and me to get through because the winter cold has destroyed the tomatoes in most of the farms in Immokalee. Two weeks have gone by and there is no sign of work. Everyone is becoming concerned, including me -- because I know my family will be greatly affected by this unfortunate situation. This means my father will have a difficult time finding work until late March when the next farming season begins.

"I know this is hard for my father because he enjoys working to provide for the family. I, too, am worried now because I want to help as much as I can. I want to work, but it is so hard with my senior class schedule. Now the pressure has increased, making it harder for me to focus. It is okay though, because I know this will only make me stronger; I must finish what I started. The only thing I can do is pray and be thankful for what I do have. I stop and think about my family and my friends at the Founders Fund, I cannot let them down. I must keep moving forward for one of my biggest dreams is only a few months away...

– Hugo Gijon – FGCU



# Interviews with Our Founders and Past Chairmen

## John F. Cauley, Chairman emeritus



John's commitment to The Founder's Fund began many years ago through his friend Ed Brennan, in whose memory the biennial golf tournament is named. He credits Ed for bringing himself and many of their friends on board. "Ed got many of us involved," he says, "He was a terrific guy and a wonderful advocate of the Fund."

John first served on the Board of The Founder's Fund for several years and then served a two-year term as chairman about four years ago. What he found most energizing about the work was the process of interviewing and following the students who received scholarships. Each year all Board members go out in pairs to high schools in Collier County. They work with guidance counselors to help identify students who could benefit from the Fund. Recipients are selected on the basis of need and merit. Once accepted, students are followed by the Fund and required to submit their grades. This hands-on approach has many rewards. The best part, John says, is "watching the students grow as mature adults from year to year."

The Fund hosts a "Get Acquainted Luncheon" every year in January and is attended by board members, supporters, sponsors, and the students who receive scholarships. John looks forward to this event as a chance to meet and socialize with the students.

He notes that "As freshmen, they are a bit shy. But by the time they are seniors, they glow." He finds it very gratifying to watch their progress and know how much of a difference The Founder's Fund has made in their lives. Since its inception in 1991, The Founder's Fund has awarded more than \$1,800,000 in scholarships.

John retired about 15 years ago as President of Friendly Restaurant Chain, a nationwide chain of 600 restaurants based in Massachusetts. He has served on the board of several major corporations, including Massachusetts General Insurance Company and Enesco. In addition to his leadership role at The Founder's Fund, he is also a member and past director of The Forum Club of Southwest Florida. Currently he is on the Board of The Club at Pelican Bay and contributes his time to several non-profit organizations.

Of his past and current dedication to the organization, John sums it up easily. "Once you become involved, you can't let it go."

## Tim Ubben, Chairman emeritus



Tim Ubben has a deep commitment to education and mentoring. His volunteer resume goes back decades and is notable for his work helping young people gain access to college. He is the founding chairman of Posse Chicago, part of The Posse Foundation. Posse is one of the most comprehensive and renowned college access and youth leadership development programs in the United States. Founded in 1989, Posse identifies public high school students with extraordinary academic and leadership potential who may be overlooked by traditional college selection processes. Posse extends to these students the opportunity to pursue personal and academic excellence by placing them in supportive, multicultural teams –Posses. Posse partner-colleges and universities award Posse Scholars four-year, full-tuition leadership scholarships.

Tim sees his work with The Founders Fund as a natural extension of his work with Posse. Whereas Posse focuses on disadvantaged kids, The Founders Fund aims to help deserving and needy kids in Collier County. "I believe in this kind of work," he says, "it's an enjoyable part of my life." Of his tenure as Chairman of The Founders Fund six years ago, he is most proud of the fundraising goals they achieved. "We raised more money than anyone had previously," but notes that this can be difficult to do in today's economic environment.

Tim's early roots at DePauw University in Indiana (class of 1958) developed into a lifelong involvement with his alma mater. He has been a Trustee at DePauw for 22 years, something he enjoys very much. He and his wife Sharon founded the Ubben Lecture Series there in 1986 as a way to bring the world to DePauw. Past speakers include Mikhail Gorbachev, Benazir Bhutto, Tony Blair, Gen. Colin Powell, Spike Lee and Peyton Manning.

Retired from his job as Chairman of Lincoln Capital Management for about ten years, Tim continues to stay busy. In addition to his commitments with DePauw and Posse, Tim serves on the Board of Directors for Boys & Girls Club of Collier County, and is a member of The Forum Club of Southwest Florida. He and his wife Sharon are also supporters of the Naples Botanical Garden. When asked if he has much free time, he happily reports, "Oh yes, I always have time for golf!"

## The Perfect Pair of Shoes

By Gabrielle Mc Caffrey  
Flagler College, Junior



When asked about prospective objectives or goals in an enumerated amount of time, individuals often expound upon forthcoming hopes and fantasies, how these events will pan out, and what they are doing to ensure that their goals become realities.

"What are your goals for the next year? How about the next five or ten? What are you doing now to prepare yourself for the future, young lady?"

Often, answers include variations of ecstatic blurbs on calculated roads to success, dripping with anticipation and excitement. Guilty as charged, I find only one thing disconcerting about these responses. While grasping every opportunity for success, setting oneself up for success, and ensuring all the doors that open are taken advantage of, there's a certain facet of life that not many take into consideration--the social and personal realities that life and the future impose on us. We cannot count on life to deliver to us everything we hope for, placed into a box, and tied with a bow. One fact, however, that remains constant throughout an individual's existence is the undeniable need for footwear.

Whether we pay attention to them or not, shoes are ultimately what move us all from point A to point B. Their function goes beyond the basic realm of fabric and plastic conjoined to facilitate fashion or durability. They act as physical, tangible conduits to our future. They create paths; they visit and experience the paths of others. Our shoes can carry us through anything we may encounter, whether the experience is harsh, unsettling, predictable, imminent, enlightening or otherwise. We hope they may keep us dry, warm, safe from the elements of life, providing comfort for long journeys. Altogether, we as two legged creatures put more trust into our footwear on a daily basis than we realize.

To make a long story short, on a very basic level I am preparing for my future by practicing for my Law School Admissions test in June of this year, working on two degrees and a minor at Flagler College, and employing myself in multiple areas of school involvement, such as Student Government and the Student Judiciary Council. But when it comes down to the come down, all I'm really doing is searching for the perfect pair of shoes.

## Annual Counselors' Breakfast

The Founders Fund, Inc. held its High School Counselor Breakfast on Wednesday, Feb. 3rd at The Club Pelican Bay. Attending the annual event were 11 Collier County High School Guidance counselors.

The Founders Fund members in attendance were informed about the current standings of the schools' senior class from those people most involved with the students – their guidance counselors. They shared knowledge on the sizes of the graduating class, the anticipated financial need of the students, and experience with the difficulties facing college-bound seniors, most notably the need for support to pay for their education.

Counselors in attendance were: Sandra Consolino, Golden Gate; Cathy Hargis, Palmetto Ridge; Melissa Hunter, Barron Collier; Lee Kay, Community School; Abby Lambley, Lorenzo Walker Institute of Technology, Bill Kramer, Naples; Marrie McLaughlin, assistant principal at St. John Neumann; Audrey Moss, Immokalee; Glenna Potter, Everglades; Peg Reale, Lely; and Linda Sharp, Gulf Coast High School.



Melissa Hunter, Abby Lambley, Glenna Potter, Bill Kramer



Sue Davenport, Marrie McLaughlin, Sue McNaughton

Lee Kay, Sandra Consolino



Linda Sharp, Tom Lear, Peg Reale



**Make sure to check out our website!**  
**Photos from all of our events are posted online.**  
**[www.thefoundersfundinc.org](http://www.thefoundersfundinc.org)**