



June 2013

Alex Archie Foundation Newsletter #5

The last year has been very busy for the AAF. First of all we want to thank all of you for your on-going donations and support. Without you we would not be able to continue to AF's mission to help more players lay lacrosse, the game Alex loved and support student athletes find their dreams.

Since the last news letter in 2012 we have been able to continue the annual scholarships to Pomperaug High School, the Hill School and Pomperaug Youth Lacrosse. We have also been able to continue our support to the Washington Area Youth Lacrosse Program and Central High School (Bridgeport, CT) JV boy's lacrosse team. It has been a fun and exciting year and we appreciate all of you helping on the journey.

Pomperaug HS Boys and Girls Scholarships

This year the Pomperaug High school scholarships went to 5 outstanding candidates. The winners were selected by the coaching staffs of the boys and girls program along with the AAF board. The \$1,000 scholarships are given to a graduating boy and girl from Pomperaug High school that meets the following criteria:

The AAF scholarships are given to a graduating senior boy and girl from Pomperaug High School lacrosse player that best represent Alex's love of lacrosse and academics, commitment to improve himself and his fellow teammates and honor the creator's game. Alex loved lacrosse and also cross country. He was a fan of Steve Prefontaine and one of his favorite quotes was "to give anything less than your best was to sacrifice the gift."

The 2013 boy's scholarship recipient was Jesse Prajer. Jesse was a defenseman for PHS and will be going to University of Hartford to study arson investigation.

The girl's scholarship was split this year among 4 senior captains"

- Elisa Cantito - Emmanuel College
- MacKenzie Vaughan - James Madison University
- Morgan McMinn - Keene State College
- Shayna Delaney - Messiah College

At the Pomperaug High School girls lacrosse banquet Mitch Delaney also spoke about life growing up with Alex and how their time together helped to shape his life. Mitch Delaney was a goalie on the 2007 Pomperaug Lacrosse team with Alex. In 2008 Mitch started the Alex Archie Leadership Award. The leadership award is beautiful cut-glass sculpture/award that Mitch started by giving to an up-coming senior boys lacrosse player. The award is to the player that most resembles a true lacrosse player. Someone that loves lacrosse and pushes himself to be the best they can on and off the field. A player

that is constantly learning to better himself in lacrosse and life, a player that wants his teammates to improve and do their best they can as much as he wants to improve himself. Mitch is such a player and by starting this perpetual award he has helped the lacrosse team identify and develop its future leaders. Each award winner also has the honor of selecting the next year's winner. The 2012 Alex Archie Leadership Award winner was Dylan McCalister and this year he selected XXXXXXXXX. The award and certificate was presented at the boy's banquet this past June

(INSET PICTURE)

We can't thank both the girls and boys lacrosse team enough for their on-going support of the AAF. Both teams made heartfelt donations to the AAF by raising money via fund raising events and the Girls Lacrosse Night, where the girl's team runs an instructional clinic for the girl's youth team and all proceeds and donations are sent to the AAF. Because of their efforts we are able to help more and more kids play lacrosse around the country.

The Hill School

Ned Ide passed on that the \$1,000 scholarship to the boy's lacrosse team at The Hill School went to good this year to help provide some professional grade videography for 8 key games. The end result helped players at the Hill send high level recruiting films to college coaches, a critical part of the college lacrosse recruiting process. In the end players were accepted at Delaware, Michigan, Colgate, Hofstra and Penn State among others.

Another tradition of The Hill School lacrosse team is to select a player each year to wear #16 in memory of Alex. This year Matt Washington wore #16 and this summer he is heading off to Navy as a midshipman and long stick middie. As Ned described, he is a terrific embodiment of Alex's game: athletic, aggressive, dominate between the box tops and competitive. We want to wish him well as he heads off to Navy to start the next phase of his life.

Lisa and I want to thank Ned and Becky for their on-going support at The Hill. Last year Ned stepped down as head coach to become the assistant coach to help focus on other responsibilities at The Hill. They continue to keep Alex's memory alive in all they do.

Central High School, Bridgeport, CT

As we mentioned last year in our newsletter, Don Wilson of the Bridgeport Youth lacrosse program introduced us to the Central High School boy's lacrosse team. Don is amazing and through his persistence and hard work, helped save the 2013 boys lacrosse team. He did a great job rallying support and donations to prevent the season from being canceled. Last year the team was only a club team with just 4 games in the season. Because of lots of effort and support from Don and the Central HS, the team was flourished as a JV team with a full 16 game season. The AAF was able to help out this year by donating 4 goals, balls, cones, mouth guards and a set of 35 game jerseys and game shorts (see Bob Bush and Cheshire Sports below). Add to that the boys team also got a new head coach, Shane Martin

who is an English teacher at Central. Shane is one of the most energetic, sincere and solid (?) coaches we have seen. Shane is currently a freshman football coach at Central, but he has done an amazing job picking up the game, reading, studying videos, and talking to everyone he can he has become a student of the game, learning every day and leading the team to a great season. Shane commitment to the team and lacrosse was a joy to see. In addition to reading all he could about the game, he also immersed his players in the Indian culture of the game. At one point in the season he had an Indian Chief from a local tribe come to his class and talk to his students and also bless a game ball for on the games. His efforts helped the players see the creator's game for what it was meant to be, as a way to honor the creator and life.

This year the AAF also started a new tradition and provided scholarships to three Central HS players to go to the Nike lacrosse camp at Suffield Academy. They had a great time and they will come back with new skills and techniques that they can help teach their teammates next year.

(INSERT PICTURES)

Pomperaug Youth Lacrosse

The Pomperaug Youth Lacrosse program continues to grow in Southbury/Middlebury CT. The AAF provided a scholarship to a boys and girls youth players to attend summer camp. We are excited to continue to see the program grow under the leadership of the president Matt Funk and the entire board, coaching staff and great parent and family support. Go Pomperaug!

Insert picture

Washington Area Youth Lacrosse Team – Washington, ME

Sue Frank and the Washington Area Youth Lacrosse team also continue to grow from a scratch start 2 years ago. This year the AAF continued to support the program's growth by donating indoor sticks and goals for their elementary (?) school physical Education program. Sue had the idea of helping the kids try new sports in the school year and that may help expand the program in the spring. We look forward to supporting Sue and the Washington Area team into the future.

Cheshire Sports

We can't thank enough the help of Bob Bush owner of Cheshire Sports in Cheshire CT. Bob was a true supporter of Pomperaug lacrosse from the beginning and now continues to throw his full support into the AAF. This year Cheshire Sports helped make the game jerseys and shorts for Central High School's JV team. He also helped us with the remainder of the equipment for Central, and Washington Area Youth Lacrosse Teams. Thanks Bob!

2012-2013 Fund Raising and Contributions

As the AAF is now expanding its efforts to help more kids reach their dreams through lacrosse, we want to thank all who continue to make donations and contributions. These efforts come in a variety of ways

and all of the money we receive is used to help more players play lacrosse. Since 2008 Scott Brown has been donating his time to do the AAF's taxes. Even though we are a 501C we are still required by law to submit our financials to the IRS. Scott has been outstanding in his efforts to help us meet all of these requirements, plus provide advice to the AAF board. Julia Brown, Scott's wife has also been providing her support with the initial legal work to get the AAF approved as a 501C non-profit. In sad, news Scott passed away last year to pancreatic cancer. (Not sure what to say)

We want to thank Jay Witek, of Witek ??? for his efforts to support the AAF. Jay has donated his serves to help complete the tax work started by Scott. Thanks Jay.

In the spring of 2013 PJ XXXX, one of Alex's classmates from The Hill School ran stringing clinics in the Princeton, NJ area to raise awareness of the AAF and also collect donations and equipment contributions. Through PJ's efforts he was able to teach #rd through ^th graders the skill of stringing your own stick. Each player donated \$10 dollars and working with PJ strung a head, donated by Cheshire Sports. Following the initial two clinics we received over \$XXX in donations and XX strung heads, plus a ton of youth lacrosse equipment. The AAF will use the combination of strung heads and donated pads, gloves, helmets, etc. to help sponsor some new programs in the coming year. Also through PJ's work, the Princeton area now knows a little bit more about the roots of lacrosse and the joy of stringing your own stick and a little bit about Alex and his love of the game. Thanks PJ and Bob.

Harper Children's Fund – Do we want to include this?

In summer, 2012-2013 season has been another busy and successful season because of all your help and efforts. This year more kids are playing the creator's game and have a chance to reach their goals because of you. Thanks.

2013 Men's Summer League

The AAF tried to start a not for profit Men's summer league in Western CT for graduated HS players through 30 years old. The objective was to help create a fun league for HS graduates to continue to show their stuff and enjoy the creator's game after the glory years. The dues we designated for jerseys, ball s and refs and then any donations over the top would go to support the AAF. Because of a late start we were not successful getting it launched in 2013. We are looking for ideas and support to try again in 2014.

We would love to hear from you with any other ideas or programs that need help getting started.

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Lisa and Tom Archie

Co-Presidents

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EIN# 26-2646922



The Alex Archie Foundation was established to honor Alex's love for lacrosse and his wonderful athleticism and sportsmanship. He enjoyed life and lacrosse and the mission of the Foundation is to help other young lacrosse players to fulfill their dreams.

Donations are accepted at <http://www.AlexArchieFoundation>