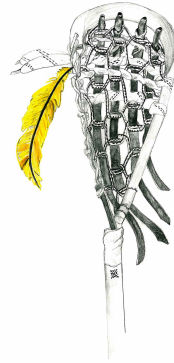


# Alex Archie Foundation

Helping young athletes find their dreams

May 2017



# AAF

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# AAF

Dear Friends of the AAF:

We are happy to send this newsletter along to you and hope it finds you well in body and spirit.

This edition of the Alex Archie Foundation newsletter is quite late – the Archie family moved to Providence, RI last November and our timeline was thrown off a bit. That in mind, most of the moving boxes are gone and we have a sense of normalcy again, so no better time to send news of the AAF.

The annual scholarship presentations took place last June for the Girls' and Boys' Lacrosse teams for Pomperaug High School. This \$1,000. scholarship is awarded to graduating female and male player(s) who exemplify Alex's love of lacrosse and academics, his commitment to self-improvement as well as that of his teammates, and lastly to those who honor the Creator's Game.



Josiah Wilson and Tom

The 2016 Girls' recipients were: Tess Griffin (Fairfield University), Hayley McCormick (York College of Pennsylvania), and Peyton Fleming (University of Connecticut). The 2016 Boys' recipient was Jimmy Gibbons who is attending Indiana University. In continuation of a newer tradition, the Bridgeport High School/Youth Lacrosse scholarship was awarded to Josiah Wilson who is attending Denison University and playing on their lacrosse team. Congratulations to these exemplary student-athletes who have honored Alex and the AAF with their commitment to lacrosse, their education and their communities.



PHS Girls' Scholarship Recipients



Jimmy Gibbons with the Archies

# AAF



The Foundation again made a \$1,000. donation to the Boys' Lacrosse team at The Hill, to support the team in Alex's honor. They continue to use the check for players' recruiting videos – a direct recognition of how hard Alex fought to play at the D1 level. While we await word from the coaches about the post-graduate selected to wear #16 in this 2017 season, we were very glad to be introduced to Frank McGlinchey – 2016 #16.



Eric Neumeyer – Colorado College

And the #16 carries on: Nate Ide (son of Ned and Becky, teachers, coaches, counselors, friends - Hill School) will graduate from Middlebury College this spring wearing # 16 in his final season. He will then pass that along to Chase Midgely who wore #16 at The Hill as a PG in 2015. Eric Neumeyer, Hill '12, wore #16 for Colorado College and scored the winning goal over Whittier in the D3 Sweet 16 last May. In a very kind note, Eric wrote to us after his season and said this, "Though I never had the pleasure of meeting him (Alex), his legacy left a strong impression on me during my time at The Hill. It was a great honor representing him on the field at CC. My AA16 shirt is worn to threads and I would love another one...."

We learned through his coaches that Frank took full advantage of his post-graduate year, on and off athletic fields, with an innate sense of compassion and social justice.

We recently heard from our college friend, Charlie Meister, who is an assistant coach for the USC Men's lacrosse team. He sent us a picture of Dan Katzman, The Hill '14, wearing #16 at USC as he did at The Hill – a great small world connection!



And it is exciting to announce that #16 has been brought back to the Pomperaug Boys' Lacrosse team this spring. The coaches and booster club asked the Archie family if we would consider bringing back the number. Alex's brothers, Sam and Henry both wore #16 at PHS and then the number was retired. The Girls' PHS team has carried on their tradition of passing along the number annually, so we are happy to bring it back for the boys. We feel this is a way to not only honor Alex, but to

also keep each new year of players aware of who Alex was and what the AAF stands for. Tom recently attended the season opening Pot Luck supper at PHS to announce Mike Schenk as the first player to wear the number again.

We would also like to acknowledge the PHS Girls' Lacrosse team for their annual fundraising effort for the AAF during their Girls' Lax Night with the youth program. And another thank you to the 2016 Boys' team and assorted alumni who came together in support of the AAF for a great alumni game.



Fields of Growth - Jamaica January 2016

Thanks to the generosity of past PHS players and families (the Freunds and the Prajers), PJ Mara and past Hill players, and three graduated ASU lacrosse players (Dan Davis, Mitchell Delaney, and Henry Archie), the AAF was again able to send equipment to Fields of Growth for their Jamaica programs (fieldsofgrowthintl.org) and a donation was also made to Bridgeport Youth Lacrosse. We have been contacted by a new friend to the AAF: Alix Baldini who met Sam and Henry through Fields of Growth. She is spreading the word of the AAF in Florida for us.

The Foundation sent an annual donation to New Fairfield Youth lacrosse in memory of John Pendergast, Jr.

As we have mentioned in recent newsletters, we feel that the work of the AAF should extend beyond the

world of lacrosse to also include suicide prevention. We attempted to bring an activeminds presentation to Pomperaug High School. To our disappointment, that did not occur, but we are very excited to know that Rhode Island has 4 active chapters: Brown University, Providence College, RI College and Roger Williams. We are in conversation now with the main office about working with the Brown chapter to bring a presentation to the campus as well as possibly to a local high school.

We are also very happy to honor our friends, Lauren and Alyssa Damiani (PHS '10) who participated in the San Francisco Out of the Darkness Overnight walk. Prior to their arrival in San Francisco, they raised \$4728.00 for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention – congratulations on their awesome effort!

A forever thank you is necessary to Jay Witek for his pro bono tax work on behalf of the AAF, to Ann Archie who administrates the Charles Schwaab account for the Foundation, and to Cheshire Sport for great t-shirts at cost – thank you very much!



Equipment donation to Driggs Elementary, Waterbury CT

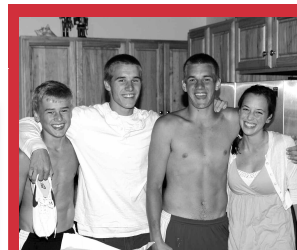
We are excited about new opportunities that lie ahead for the AAF in Rhode Island and hopefully in many



places we will discover. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any ideas for projects, teams or individuals who might benefit from the AAF and its mission.

The Alex Archie Foundation exists because of all of you who have supported us so exceptionally and generously. Tom and I, Sam and Henry are so grateful to you and for this chance to keep Alex close by. Thank you very much.

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Henry, Alex, Sam Archie & Liz Connolly

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