



Helen and Vernon Souders Memorial Scholarship

Annual Scholarship Information

Scholarship History

The Helen and Vernon Souders Memorial Scholarship Fund began in 1992 when Jim and Vernon Souders along with their sister, Meg, inherited the family farm after their mother, Helen Kellenbarger Souders passed away. The farm was originally homesteaded by Herman and Helen Burow and Joseph and Margaret Kellenbarger. It was passed on to J.K. and Cora Burow Kellenbarger, and eventually to Vernon, Sr. and Helen Souders along with Homer Burow.

Mrs. Helen Souders was a teacher in the school system in the early 1960's and both Mr. and Mrs. Souders were active in the community and promoted the consolidation of the two schools in the 1960's. Mr. Burow and Vernon, Sr. preceded Helen Souders in death and with her passing, her children Jim, Vernon, Jr., and Meg wanted to use some of the inheritance from the family farm as a way of thanking the school and community for the success of their family and for them personally. They have continued to support the fund through the years with annual awards growing from \$500 in 1992 to \$1000 from 1998-2007 and \$2,000 from 2007 forward. Anselmo-Merna Public Schools and the A-M Foundation thank the Souders family for their generous support of our students and their futures!

I. Qualifications

- A. The student must be a four-year graduate of Anselmo-Merna High School and fill out the A-M Foundation Scholarship Application noting they are applying for the Souders Memorial Scholarship.

- II. Selection of Recipient
 - A. Student must complete and file an application form with the Foundation's selection committee by April 1st.
 - B. Recipient must be a current graduate of Anselmo-Merna High School.
 - C. The A-M Foundation selection committee shall serve as the selecting committee. If a son, daughter, brother, or sister of a selection committee member is an applicant, that member will not serve on the selecting committee. The committee will:
 - a. Study completed application forms
 - b. Designate recipient
 - c. Assure scholarship will be applied to school expenses

- III. General Organization of the Scholarship
 - A. Total amount of the scholarship will be \$2,000
 - B. The recipient will not have to return any of the scholarship money received as it is not a loan or repayment scholarship. The recipient will, however, be required to refund the face value of the scholarship if one semester of full-time study is not completed and recorded at their respective schools.
 - C. Returned scholarship funds should automatically be placed back into the scholarship account for future awards to other students.
 - D. The scholarship will be presented at the graduation ceremony each year.
 - E. The recipient may attend any school of higher learning approved by the State Department of Education or a State Board whose duty is to approve vocational schools. There must be evidence that the recipient has enrolled in school, and the scholarship must be used in either the first or second semester of the recipient's first year in college.

- IV. Other Considerations
 - A. If serious extenuating circumstances which make it impossible for the recipient(s) to fulfill Part III B, and/or E, the scholarship selection committee will have the right to make reasonable exceptions.
 - B. A student is required to write a thank you letter to the Foundation and to the scholarship sponsor (family). A copy of these letters must be sent to the Foundation at the mailing address provided by July 15th.