

Seneca School launches scholarship program

SENECA — Seneca Elementary School has established the Seneca School Foundation Inc. The non-profit organization, founded by members of the school's alumni, will assist the school to not only continue its educational mission in Seneca, but to grow and expand its programs. The organization became a recognized corporation in Oregon on Aug. 9, 2002.

During the first board of directors meeting on Oct. 18, those present included Diane Browning, John Saunders, Kristin Long and Adele Cerny of Seneca, Jack Seebart of John Day, Sam Seebart of Bonney Lake, Wash., Zane Lindley of Kimberly, Idaho, and John McGhee of Reno, Nev. Dale Hofstetter of Placerville, Calif., a former SES teacher, is the ninth member of board. Topics of the meeting included the election of officers, defining the vision, mission, and priorities of the foundation, short- and long-term goals, funding strategies and future programs.

The board decided to offer college scholarships to deserving SES students upon their eighth-grade graduation. If funds are available, one or more scholarships also will be offered at the end of the current school year. Students were notified of the program on Oct. 21. It is the hope of the foundation that more than



Contributed photo

Members of the Board of Directors of the Seneca School Foundation are: (Front row right to left) Adele Cerny and Diane Browning; (Back row from right to left) Kris Long, Sam Seebart, John Saunders, Jack Seebart, and John McGhee. Not pictured are Zane Lindley and Dale Hofstetter.

one scholarship can be offered this first year.

The first scholarship fund in this pro-

gram to offer scholarships is called the Seneca Logger Scholarship Fund and commemorates the men who played on

the town softball team sponsored by Edward Hines Lumber Company in the early years of the community. The scholarship's main purpose is to encourage SES students to realize their fullest potentials and to provide them incentive "to be all they can be." Criteria for retaining the scholarship until college entrance is based on standards that will ensure their ability to qualify for other, future scholarships that will be available upon graduation from high school.

The application period began on Feb. 1 and will end on March 15. Interested students can request an application from Cerny. The minimum requirements for students to apply for a scholarship are a 3.5 GPA for the current school year, continued enrollment in SES since the beginning of the student's sixth grade school year, submission of a completed scholarship application, which includes parent approval, and a 500-word essay on a specific topic to be announced.

A selection committee will interview each applicant in April, with the date and interview times announced prior to March 25. Scholarship winners will be announced at this year's eighth-grade graduation ceremony.

For further information, contact Cerny at Seneca Elementary School at 542-2542.