Fall 2016



# ANNUAL REPORT & NEWSLETTER



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# Letter from the President—Sherm Carlson

This year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of REA<sup>3</sup>D, with Articles of Incorporation filed with the Secretary of State on September 11, 1996. It has been my honor to serve as a Director for the better part of those years, having been elected in 2000.

The evolution of this non-profit organization from its first ten years (when no grants were given as we strived to build the Endowment to \$100,000) through the latter ten years has been striking. To date, funds now total slightly over a quarter of a million dollars, the interest from which has supported 98 grants totaling more than \$45,000.

Since its inception, the acronym REA<sup>3</sup>D (Rails Endowment for Academic, Arts, and Athletic Development) was thought to be rather creative with the "A" to the 3<sup>rd</sup> power (memories of high school math) being its mission. However, with too many people questioning, "What is REA<sup>3</sup>D?,"we also now reference it as the Proctor Area Educational Foundation.

While a vast majority of the grants have been directed toward Proctor elementary and secondary schools, we are striving to bring awareness of the grant application process to organizations and individuals throughout the city and townships. The form is available at our <u>rea3d.org</u> website, which gives a good indication of the criteria on which grants are awarded.

Furthermore, under the subheading of "REA<sup>3</sup>D grantees," the list by application title will give a sense of the broad array of the support being sought. Unfortunately, the funds available for each granting round fall short of the monies requested, prompting the Board to become ever more creative in its fundraising initiatives.

For those of us who have fallen into what society has deemed to be our "senior" years, it is sad, in some respects, that this Foundation needs to exist at all, as more enrichment activities can no longer be supported within the current school budget.

As Bob Myers ('65) recalls from growing up in Proctor in the late 50s and early 60s, student athletic fees were unheard of, with the exception of \$2 for "socks and jocks." And who could forget the late Henry Chapman standing at the school bus door collecting the 10 cents (maybe it was a quarter) to allow kids the opportunity to swim at the Pike Lake Auto Club for a brief time in the summer.

Those days are gone, but REA<sup>3</sup>D remains committed to supporting student, teacher, and community initiatives, to the extent possible, which fall within the scope of this non-profit foundation. Your financial support either directly, or participation in one of our many fundraising events, will ensure continued fulfillment of its mission.

# Stauber Announced as REA<sup>3</sup>D by Candlelight Dinner Speaker

Larry Stauber, Jr. of the Minnesota Court of Appeals has accepted an invitation to give opening remarks at this year's major winter fundraiser, *REA*<sup>3</sup>*D by Candlelight* on February 24, 2017. His presence could not have been better timed as REA<sup>3</sup>D concludes its 20th anniversary, for it was Judge Stauber, then a local lawyer, who donated his services to create REA<sup>3</sup>D. "I've always had a lot of pride in my Proctor roots," he has often stated, "and I was more than willing to lend assistance."

Larry graduated from Proctor High School in 1965. He graduated from the University of Minnesota, Duluth, with degrees in political science, social studies and geography. Shortly thereafter he enlisted in the U.S. Army, being commissioned a 2nd lieutenant in 1971. He and his wife Cindy were stationed in Germany for three years. Cindy taught in the armed forces schools during that time.

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Upon completing his 4 1/2 years of active military service, Larry enrolled in Chicago-Kent College of Law, graduating in 1977, and was accepted into the Minnesota Bar the same year. He formed the law firm of Stauber and Lien and practiced law and served as a Public Defender until 2008, when he was appointed to the Minnesota Court of Appeals by Governor Tim Pawlenty.

Larry has resided in Grand Lake Township for about 35 years and served several terms as a Township Supervisor. He and Cindy had two daughters, Leah, now a prosecutor for St. Louis County, and Erin, a Fulbright Scholar, who now teaches in the Washington D.C. school system.



#### Thank You ISD 704 Faculty and Staff

The REA<sup>3</sup>D Board of Directors would like to recognize the ISD 704 Faculty and Staff for their generous contributions of \$4781 during the 2015-16 school year.

Carlie Anderson Robin Anderson Stephen Anderson Nicole Applewick Katherine Bjonskaas David Carman Todd Clark Rochelle Cleary Gina Cole James Conrad Phyllis Cook Brandon Delacey Teresa Erickson Jenn Fuchs Leah Gagne Bill Gates Glen Gilderman Josh Gookins

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Katie Sandor
James Savre
Theresa Shanoff
Nathaniel Simpson

Jesse Smith
Julie Stauber
Gordy Westendorf

# First Annual Golf Scramble: July 2016

On July 20, 2016 REA<sup>3</sup>D hosted its first annual golf scramble at Grand View Golf Links. This golf course, located on Midway Road, proved to be a perfect venue, and through its generosity, helped make this event possible. Thirty-five golfers played in the scramble. Competitive on-the-course games including longest putt and farthest drive kept the action lively. Following the golfing, players and guests travelled to the Buffalo House where prizes were awarded, and to top off the event, everyone enjoyed a sumptuous steak dinner.

Several benevolent organizations sponsored holes throughout the course, and the sponsors, listed below, helped make this event a great fundraiser for the REA<sup>3</sup>D foundation.

The winning team, with players Phil Mogen, Phil Lind, Mick Moen, Erick Kilpo, and Robert Gagne scored under par to take home the honor of winning the first annual event.

REA<sup>3</sup>D will host its second annual golf scramble next summer on July 16, 2017 with a shotgun start. This event is aimed for golfers of all levels. It is a great way to get outside, enjoy the summer weather, have fun with friends and continue to support the REA<sup>3</sup>D. Don't hesitate to participate in the next REA<sup>3</sup>D golf scramble.

# Thank You Generous Sponsors

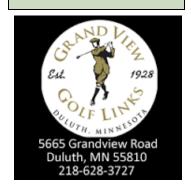


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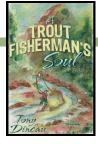




### Please Support These Businesses







# A Trout Fisherman's Soul What I Learned on The Stream, What I Learned About Life



Tony Dincau never forgot his Proctor roots, and when he approached the REA<sup>3</sup>D board about sponsoring a book signing/fundraising event for his book *A Trout Fisherman's Soul*, they enthusiastically agreed. Dincau, a proud PHS alumnus graduated from UMD in 1987 where he earned a BS in Geology and subsequently, an MS in Geology from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1989. After finishing college, he moved to Lafayette, Louisiana, where he has been an exploration geologist in the oil and natural gas business for the last twenty-five years. However, it was the tie to Proctor that led to his literary venture. The book is not merely a book about fishing the Flag River in northern Wisconsin; rather, the book is about the importance of family, traditions, and a passion for life.

On Monday, September 26, Dincau came home to his elementary school, Bay View. He reminisced about teachers who taught him academic and life lessons. Twenty-nine people attended his book talk as he praised his Proctor roots for giving him a foundation for life.

Tony began his evening by discussing the trials and challenges of being a first-time writer. As a scientist, he never pictured himself as an author. However, he felt compelled to write his memoir to share his love for family and the outdoors and to preserve cherished family memories. Even the cover of the book exemplifies Tony's reverence for family as he chose a water color painting his mother created. He shared his anticipation, perhaps fear, as he sent his book off for its first professional review, which pleasantly turned out to be a great experience. The *Kirkus Review* described his work as "an intimate, entrancing sketch of a family that found joy and affirmation in nature."

As Tony read excerpts from his book, it became clear that growing up in the Northland and the surrounding area shaped him into the man he is today. From his grandfather's rod and creel to the carefully selected passages in his book, Tony's passion for family and the sport of trout fishing was palpable. Elementary and middle school students were mesmerized as he spoke about his love for spending time with family while fishing. He discussed his fishing technique and the special moments he spent with three generations of trout fishermen. Once the talk ended, the students lingered to ask additional questions and share their own outdoor experiences.

Tony embodies what it means to be RailStrong. He has never forgotten his roots, he strongly believes in a good education, and his commitment to family is unwavering. For each book purchased the night of the event, he donated to the REA<sup>3</sup>D foundation. Giving back to the community and his hometown is important to Dincau. Everyone who attended the event left with an uplifted spirit after spending time with a dedicated, generous man.



Fans waited in line to have their books signed.



Young fishermen discussed their experiences with Tony following the book signing.



Dincau demonstrated how to use his grandfather's fishing rod.





The Walking Tour began at the Proctor Historical Museum site on a beautiful August morning.

# **Proctor Graduate Takes History to the Streets**

In its January 2016 granting round, REA<sup>3</sup>D granted funds toward a project called the Proctor History Walk. While this decision has since brought signage highlighting historical sites along sidewalks throughout the City of Proctor, it has also renewed the REA<sup>3</sup>D Board's interest in extending REA<sup>3</sup>D funding beyond the classroom and into communities throughout the Proctor School District.

A project conceived and brought to life by current REA<sup>3</sup>D board member Russell Habermann, the Proctor History Walk ties academics, arts, and athletics into one initiative by extending lessons of local history with signs that guide a walking tour through Proctor.

The walking tour and its signs call attention to existing historical sites and structures like Summit School, Proctor Village Hall, and the

First National Bank, in addition to bygone buildings like the Proctor Depot and Proctor's Railway YMCA.

"Proctor is a storied community," said Habermann, a 2011 graduate of Proctor High School. "This story deserves to be told, and the only way to effectively tell that story is by prompting citizens to actually get out and go to places where important events and community matters took place."

The walking tour and its signs are supplemented by a website where historians can read more in depth about each site and Proctor's history as a whole. This resource is available at www.proctorhistorywalk.org.

"Today, we have access to incredible amounts of information on the internet, but when I personally wanted to learn more about the community I grew up in, it was difficult to dig up anything," Habermann recalled. "Proctor has history displayed at the Proctor Area Historical Museum, at Proctor High School, and in the Proctor Area Community Center, but these places can't always be open, and each place only holds specific pieces of Proctor's story."

This informational gap inspired Habermann's idea to bring Proctor history to the streets, literally. He applied and was granted \$500 from REA<sup>3</sup>D to start the project, and eight months and innumerable hours of historical research later, the Proctor History Walk was installed on the streets and launched online.

Of the process, Habermann explained, "The project actually evolved from an idea to create an historical timeline on the sidewalks of Proctor into an initiative to call out historical sites throughout the City." This change came after Habermann discussed the project with local historians, who mentioned a long-held desire and multiple attempts to install historical markers throughout the Proctor community. "In the end, my greatest desire was to create a project that reflected the community, and I was more than willing to develop something based on a shared idea from the community rather than an idea I came up with by myself."

Habermann further brought the idea of community collaboration into the project by making the signs temporary, in hopes that the community can test out the walk and offer corrections on the information or suggestions for improvements. Though temporary, the current Proctor History Walk offers a "first draft" for a permanent installation of historical signage in Proctor.

Habermann presented the Proctor History Walk to the REA<sup>3</sup>D Board and members of the Proctor community with a guided walking tour in late August 2016, just after the signs were installed for the 2016 Hoghead Days Festival. A total of 18 people -- including REA<sup>3</sup>D Board members, city officials, and members of the public -- attended the guided tour. Although Habermann doesn't plan to hold another guided tour in the near future, he noted that the Proctor History Walk is open to anyone at anytime, "which is how historical information is best kept alive."

**Right:** Habermann answered questions throughout the tour about what he discovered as he researched his project. Those who took the walk also contributed to the discussion.





Taking the Proctor History Walk as its inspiration, REA<sup>3</sup>D hopes to continue funding projects that have a lasting impact in Proctor Schools (ISD 704) communities, such as the City of Proctor, the Bay View Heights neighborhood of Duluth, Midway Township, Solway Township, Grand Lake Township, a portion of Canosia Township, and a portion of the City of Hermantown.

In doing so, the REA<sup>3</sup>D Board made a point to extend the message of grant opportunities to the greater Proctor community for its Fall 2016 granting round. It will continue this push to bring the

REA<sup>3</sup>D message to all learners in Proctor Schools communities in the future.

Interested in the Proctor History Walk? Find materials and additional information on the historical walking tour at www.proctorhistorywalk.org. Brochures outlining the Proctor History Walk are also available at Proctor City Hall, the Proctor Area Historical Museum, or by contacting Russell Habermann

through the Proctor History Walk website.



**Left:** Look for the green signs that indicate an area of historical importance. This sign marks the former location of the Odd Fellows Temple.

**Right:** Habermann explains the significance of this site. Notice the chalked marking on the sidewalk to highlight this historical location.



# **Congratulations Fall 2016 Grant Recipients**

### Total Awards \$5,050

Middle School Books \$ 500.00 Anna Quinn—High interest books to

reach the needs of all readers.

Art in Second Grade \$ 250.00

Anna Urban—Art supplies for second grade students.

Special Ed. Connections \$1,000.00

Sara Yost—Implementation of Special Needs program.

Safe Routes to School \$ 300.00

John Engelking—Safety strobe lights on backpacks for students waiting for buses.

**Kettlebell Workouts** 

\$1,000.00

Derek Parendo - in conjunction with Community Ed. strength training.

Proctor History Walk \$ 500.00

Russell Habermann—continued support for History Walk Project.

**Empower Me Presentation** \$1,000.00

Emily Vos—Jacob Wetterling Resource Center presentation for Bay View.

Cheerleaders Macy's Parade \$ 500.00

Justine Deutschlander—Help defray costs for cheerleaders attending the parade.

# Do you have a great idea? Apply for a REA<sup>3</sup>D Grant

Next Granting Cycle—January 13, 2017

- 1. Go to our website www.rea3d.org and apply online
- 2. Download the grant application from our website and mail it to REA<sup>3</sup>D (c/o Proctor High School) 131 Ninth
- 3. Ave, Proctor, MN 55810
- 3. Contact the coordinator at sdhartwick@proctor.k12.mn.us or 628-4949 ext. 2015 to receive an application.









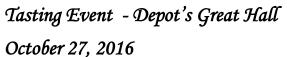








Thanks to your support, we raised over \$3,500





Please support these vendors who have so generously supported REA<sup>3</sup>D

Barker's Island— 300 Marina Dr, Superior WI
Up North Shrimp Jambalaya on Wild Rice

Bent Paddle Brewing Co.—1912 W Michigan St, Duluth MN Specialty & Seasonal Beers

Buffalo House—2590 Guss Rd, Duluth MN
Pulled Pork Slider with Homemade Chips

Cast Iron Grill—5906 Old Miller Trunk Hwy, Duluth MN
Cherry Bourbon Meatloaf & Cheesecake

Dickey's Barbecue—4960 Miller Trunk, Hermantown MN
Beef Brisket Slider with Coleslaw

Field Station—200 4th St, Proctor MN

Buffalo Chicken Quesadillas &

Chicken Wild Rice Soup

GB Schneider– 4602 Grand Av, Duluth MN
Braised Chicken Shanks over Sweet and
Sour Cabbage

Golden Inn—24 East Street, Superior WI Egg Rolls

Green Mill—340 S Lake Ave #1, Duluth, MN Spinach Dip with Garlic Toasts

Ceci Cakes—cecicakes1214 @gmail.com—Duluth MN
Filled Cupcakes - Chocolate/Chocolate or
Vanilla/Raspberry

Outback Steakhouse—4255 Haines Rd, Hermantown, MN
Little Boomey Wine Tasting &
Steakhouse Bleu Cheese Chopped Salad

Rails' Catering—131 9th Avenue, Proctor MN
Tomato/Mozzarella/Basil Kebobs with Balsamic
& Fruit Kebobs

The Shack- 3301 Belknap St, Superior, WI Smoked Chicken Wings

Stokke's Meats—3710 Midway Rd, Hermantown, MN Meat and Cheese Platter

Super One Liquor- 210 N Central Ave, Duluth, MN Fine Wines

Thirsty Pagan- 1623 Broadway St, Superior, WI Pizza Varieties



















**Basket Winner Doug Greene** 



#### 2015-16 REPORT OF CONTRIBUTIORS

These contributions are much appreciated and increase our capacity to award funding to academic, art and athletic projects. We sincerely regret any errors or omissions and ask that if you have a correction, please contact us at <a href="mailto:sdhartwick@proctor.k12.mn.us">sdhartwick@proctor.k12.mn.us</a> or <a href="https://www.REA3D.org">www.REA3D.org</a>

#### Those listed contributed to REA<sup>3</sup>D between July 2015 and June 2016



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In memory of Patricia Auge NeeRenaud by Clifford Auge
In memory of Frances Alden by Marjory Westphal-Gonzalez
In memory of Henry Chapman by Terrance & Sandy Westlund
In memory of Jerry "Jake" Sorvari by Terrance Westlund
In memory of John P. Moody by Judy Stickney Miskanic
In memory of Dean Kolojeski

In memory of parents Floyd & Evelyn Lee by Donna & Lee Boardman In memory of Warren A Christensen by Beverly Christensen In memory of Cindy Ruhnka Staubar

In memory of Cindy Ruhnke Stauber by Sandy Ruhnke Collins

In memory of Cindy Ruhnke Stauber by Lynn Dart-Nelson

In memory of Robert Dart
by Lynn Dart-Nelson
In memory of Cindy Stauber
by Lynn Dart-Nelson
In memory of Phyllis Donley

by Cindy Donley

In memory of Phyllis Donley

by Jim Doyle

In memory of Debra Dyson Engstrom '70

by Nancy & Jack Eilefson

In memory of Ruth Gustafson, Jean Voltzke, & Lavona Peterson

by Sheron & Ronald Johnson

In memory of Dean & Joe Kolojeski, Jan Bort, and Jo Sjodin

by Julie Kolojeski

In memory of Dean Kolojeski & Jo Sjodin

by Julie Kolojeski

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by Marlys Lee

In memory of Richard Smith

by Marlys Lee

In memory of Cindy Stauber by Louise & Phil Lind In memory of Coach Chapman

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In memory of Wayne Swenson & Darren Swenson

by Steve & Char Reno

#### 2016-17

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Suzy Hartwick, Coordinator

**Save the Dates For Our Upcoming Events:** 

REA<sup>3</sup>D by Candlelight Dinner February 24, 2017

**REA<sup>3</sup>D Golf Scramble:** July 16. 2017

You Can Support REA<sup>3</sup>D in the following ways:

Attend one of our events REA<sup>3</sup>D by Candlelight Dinner &
Silent Auction
Golf Outing
Tasting Event

Apply for a grant and promote REA<sup>3</sup>D www.rea3d.org

Become a table sponsor - www.rea3d.org

Donate - Use the enclosed envelope OR go to our website www.rea3d.org.

Donate items for our silent auction www.rea3d.org

Estate Planning - Go to our website www.rea3d.org.

Like us on Facebook and spread the word

Payroll Deduction - Go to our website www.rea3d.org

Visit our website - Read about what REA<sup>3</sup>D has accomplished



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