

ANNUAL REPORT & NEWSLETTER

Letter from the President—Sherm Carlson



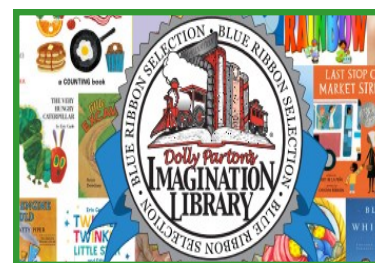
I do believe that the threat of this beast being unleashed was responsible for a 17% increase in donations from those gathered at the annual fall Proctor school staff assembly. Collectively this body continues to stand as *the* major donor to RAA³D with 82 participants signed up through

payroll deductions and cash contributions. Their support is indeed impressive.

As you browse the following pages, please note the degree of monetary and RAA³D by Candlelight auction item donations that have taken RAA³D's initial first \$100,000 goal, achieved in 2007, to over \$500,000 sixteen years later. To date, over \$135,000 in grants from investment earnings on this amount or dollars raised via RAA³D initiatives have been awarded to 180 academic, art and athletic learning projects. This capacity growth has also made possible RAA³D's first "Community Enhancement Grant," a significant award to help bring pickleball courts to the Proctor athletic complex. (See below.)

Be sure to note the changes to the 2024 RAA³D by Candlelight "fun'draiser" as the popularity of the event has surpassed the capacity of Black Woods Event

Center, prompting the move to the Greysolon Plaza Ballroom in downtown Duluth. Coupled with the evening's growing popularity, tickets will likely be in high demand with the announcement that 1978 PHS graduate and internationally acclaimed nature photographer Daniel J. Cox arrives from Bozeman, Montana to be the keynote speaker. (See page 2.)



Is your pre-schooler signed up?

Children under the age of 5 who reside in the Proctor School District can receive new children's books each month, free of charge. For more information, go to rea3d.org/DollyPartonImaginationLibrary.

RAA³D Awards First Major Community Enhancement Grant to City of Proctor Pickleball Initiative

After more than a year exploring the feasibility of bringing pickleball courts to the Proctor community, RAA³D came before the Proctor City Council with apparently "an offer too good to refuse." In short, should the council apply for RAA³D's first Community Enhancement grant, the Foundation would match dollar for dollar of incurred City costs to a maximum of \$50,000. A motion passed on a 5-0 vote at the council's September 5, 2023 meeting.

All monies from RAA³D would come from investment earnings or fundraising initiatives, leaving direct personal donations and honorariums/memorials in the Endowment untouched. Numerous sites were explored identifying the "pros and cons" of each with a definitive decision outstanding with more engineering assessments needing to be done.



World Famous Proctor Alum to be Featured Speaker at 2024 REA³D by Candlelight Event



“Brazil,” was the answer from Daniel J. Cox, questioning his whereabouts to a phone call placed in August. (The year previous, the answer was India) “We expect our guests to be arriving shortly in anticipation of capturing photos of a jaguar in the wild.”

So it began in the mid-1970s where Proctor High School teachers Glen Sorenson and Bruce Watkins sowed seeds of confidence that would germinate into his life’s vocation as an author, nature photographer, and confident speaker. With the former, it began as Glen Sorenson’s photography student being introduced to the process of film development (aside from his ill conceived envisioned portfolio of area homeless, being cut short with a run down an alley, pursued by one not respectful of his assignment.)

With the latter as a Drama Club student in his senior year, Director Bruce Watkins gave him the lead in “The Man in the Bowler Hat.” Daniel credits the experience of being before an audience as a big help in developing composure before crowds in the years to come.

With a 1978 PHS diploma in hand,

Daniel passed on the opportunity to follow in his father’s business and enrolled in UMD in pursuit of a degree in communications. But the “bug” of photography had already taken its bite.

To this day, he credits Dan Grandmaison and the late Tim Slattery (sadly drowned while photographing Duluth ore boats) for taking a chance on this young man who lacked any impressive credentials, but exuded such a passionate presence that neither owner had it within their willpower to say “no!”

“I was working my way through school into my junior year, primarily as a wedding photographer,” offered Daniel, “when Dan Grandmaison felt I might pick up something new by attending a regional photography convention in South Dakota.” Wedding photography was never his vocational quest and the change came with bypassing a breakout session for the reason he was there, and stepped into one hosted by famed nature photographer Pete Czura.

That was the “eureka” moment! With his 21 year old ID in hand, he asked the session host if he could buy him a drink. After a long, pleasant

conversation Mr. Czura simply advised that if he was really serious, “you need to go to New York.”

There it started and for the next 25 years Daniel Cox photographs would appear on the covers of numerous nature, sportsman, and ecological periodicals. In addition, his first book “Whitetail Country” will sell 150,000 copies.

Around the year 2000, the internet would bring with it the posting of numerous amateur and professional pictures alike, most free for the downloading and void of any requisite compensation. “If you can’t beat them, might as well join them,” was Daniel’s response, leading to his worldwide photo safaris and wildlife tours.

Daniel is complemented by the tourism expertise of his wife Tanya and currently reside in Bozeman, Montana where they operate Natural Exposures.



REA³D by Candlelight 2024 Moves to Greysolon Plaza Ballroom

SAVE THE DATE!

**REA³D by Candlelight
"Fun"draising' Event**



**February 16, 2024
Greysolon Plaza Ballroom
5:00 p.m.**

Due to the quick sell-out of tickets in prior years and limited space in our prior venue, we are thrilled to announce that the very entertaining REA³D by Candlelight Dinner and Auction event, scheduled for February 16, 2024, will move to the GREYSOLON PLAZA Ballroom. Our featured speaker this year is renowned nature photographer Daniel J. Cox, PHS '78. (See page 2). Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased online at rea3d.org/

events or by texting or calling Sherm Carlson at 218-391-0016, or through any REA³D board member (list on page 8). Seating will be assigned; however, groups of ten guests may request seating together by contacting Lynn Peterson at peterly72@hotmail.com. To alleviate parking concerns, shuttle bus service to and from the gala event is available through Proctor Public Schools Transportation Department.

Coveted Auction Item Returns—Dining for Eight

During the live auction at last year's REA³D by Candlelight Dinner, John Martin, culinary arts teacher at PHS, took the microphone to promote his dinner for eight at his home, and no one quite knew what to expect. President Sherm Carlson was at a loss for words when John drove up the bidding and literally called his executive chef friends and asked them to create an unforgettable evening for Rich Heine and company.

In Rich's words, "Everyone needs to experience this kind of evening. From the moment we walked into John's house, it was like being on a TV show. Each dish was paired with a spirit to

enhance the flavor. To have each chef there preparing a signature dish and serving it was wonderful."

The dining experience lasted 2.5 hours. Chefs from the Pickwick, Lake Effect, Lake Avenue Café, Cantilever, and Bick's Produce



signed on to create an unforgettable evening. Guests arrived at 5:30 and were greeted with a glass of champagne. Dinner began at 6:00 with each chef serving and explaining the dish that had been lovingly prepared. Martin referred to the evening as a symphony of chef creations. These professionals created a menu where each dish complemented the next.

Martin went on to say, "Instead of eight courses, it was probably closer to eleven. It was a fun night for the guests, but we chefs thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. It was fun to interact with our guests, and maybe even more fun to work with other professionals."

Everything involved with the evening was donated, so REA³D reaped 100% of profits from the closing bid. The chefs are excited to offer this evening again for eight lucky guests. This year's dinner auction offering will be even bigger and better than last year. Be prepared to open your wallets when John Martin steps up to the microphone at this year's Candlelight Dinner.

When asked for more details, John simply said, "Let's leave some mystery. . ."



2022-23 REPORT OF CONTRIBUTORS

Contributions made by those listed are much appreciated and increase our capacity to award funding to academic, art and athletic projects which align with the REA³D mission. Those listed contributed to REA³D between July 2022 and June 2023. We sincerely regret any errors or omissions and ask that if you have a correction, please contact us at: rea3d@proctor.k12.mn.us. Proctor Public Schools Faculty and Staff contributors are noted with an asterisk (*). Former employees are noted with a double asterisk(**).

Joann Ahlgren**	Carole Cotruvo**	John Gummerson	Kennedy Graven Law
Raylene Ahlgren	Desiree Daniel*	H&R Block	Marcie Keppers*
Sandra Akers	Lynn Dart Nelson	Mary Hains**	Gary and Sandy Kershaw
Nancy & Tom Aldridge	Brandon Delacey*	Mary Hall*	Keyport Liquor
All American Club	Noah Dennis*	Tanner Hall*	Anna Kidd*
Erica Amborn*	Britta Lynn Design	William & Kisty** Haller	Ted Kiefat*
Ameriprise	Monica Dikeman	Handft Fride Law	Marge Klint
Carlie Anderson*	Daniel & Sally Donofrio	Kathy & James Hannan	Richard & Dorothy Knudsen
Pat Anderson**	Kathy** & James Doyle	Thereasa Hansmeier*	Julie Kolojeski
Robin Anderson*	Bob Drazich	Quenton Hanson	Patti Komulainn
Stephen* and Lori Anderson	DSSO	Lowell* & Jennifer* Harnell	KQDS
Tom & Evonne** Anderson	Duluth Screen Printing	Daryl** & Linda Harper	Joseph Krasselt*
Nicole Appelwick*	Dwight Swanstrom Insurance	Suzy Hartwick**	Jonathan Kresha*
J & L Arndt	Erik Edmunds*	Samantha Heffelfinger*	Kwik Trip
Clifford Auge	Jack & Nancy Eilefson	Sheila Held**	Jill Lackner*
Bell Bank	Steven & Fay Elder	Pam Fritch Hieb**	Mary Lou Ladean
Bent Paddle	Melissa Ellis*	Eloise Hockett	Lake Superior Zoo
Bentleyville	Pam Elstad	Deeane Hoffman*	Monica Lambert-Lind*
Leah Berg*	Ely Marathon	Josh & Rebecca Howe	Rebecca LaPlante*
William & Audrey Berglund	Kathleen Erholtz**	Mark Hughes*	Joann Larson
Jim Bernard	Jeff Erickson	Industrial Tech PHS	Laura Condon Memory
Russ Berntsen**	Teresa Erickson**	Barkers Island Inn	Marlys Lee**
Judith Berntson	John & Chrissy Evans	J.S. Realty	Patricia Lehr
Andrew & Shelley Bianca	Fitz Craft Creations	Brianne Johnson*	Let's Glow
Cathy Bianchet	Focus on Living	Carey & Marsha Johnson	Liberty Diversified
Black Woods	Skip & Sandra Fontaine	Carol Johnson	Lincoln Park Crafting Community
Virg** & Lila Boehland	Dennis Francisco	Mary Margaret Johnson	Matt Lind*
William & Lynette Bonkowske	Sherry Vail-Harnell Frerichs*	Phil** & Terri Johnson	Phillip & Louise** Lind
Marilyn Boutelle	Anita Fraundorf	Rachel Johnson*	Lizzards
Barry & Judy Bray	Fryberger Law	Roger Johnson	Carol Lonke
James Bridges*	Leah Gagne*	Ron** & Sheron Johnson	Pam Lonne
Ashley Brooks*	Ron Gajewski	Rory** & Sherri Johnson	Peggy Lundeen**
Heather Budislovich*	Bill Gates*	Tarah Johnson	Russell, Cynthia & Daughters Lundeen
Sherm** & Louise** Carlson	Bruce ** & Judy Gianunzio	Johnson Wilson Constructors	Julie Lysher*
Leah Carlson*	Glen* & Terri Gilderman	JordanLarson.org Artwork	Mike & Bonnie Maeckelbergh
Fleta Carol**	Evalynn Goldberg*	Kerry Juntunen*	Connie Olson Male
Janice Cleary	Marjory Gonzales	Laura Juntunen*	Grandma's Marathon
Rochelle Cleary*	Dicks Sporting Goods	Joanna Just*	Max Caven Photography
Gina Cole**	Josh* & Jen Gookins	Beverly** & Darol Kaufmann	Bill McGann**
Sandra Ruhnke Collins	Marnie Gould	Britta Kauppila	Dave McNamee*
Jennifer Conboy	Gerald & Mindy Gruber	Nicole Kedrowski*	

Creative Memories	Jennifer Olson*	Emily Rousseau	Deb Strohm
Jim** & Betty Merling	Teresa Olson*	Lindsey Ruhnke	Michelle Sturm
Anthony & Annette Merritt	Terry Olson	Marty Running Fishing	Super One Liquors
Mesabi Preschool Academy	Ron and Diane Osborne	Gerald & Karen Ruona	Peter & Kathy **Sylvester
Midway Sewer Service	Other Place	Andrea Ruth*	Deanne Szumowski
Pam Miller	Outback Steakhouse	George** & Mary Saarela	Daniel & Nancy* Talarico
Miller Trunk Dental	Bob & Luanne** Paquette	Kathy Lee Salo	Charlene Talbot
Minnesota Power	Pebble Spa	Sammy's Pizza	The Shack
Wayne Misgen*	Renee Pederson*	Kathryn Sandor*	The Wednesday Bakery
Carli Mitchell*	Erick Perala*	Pamela Sarvela	Terri Thell**
MN Energy Resources	Jeff & Kathy Peterson	James Savre*	Jayne Thorson*
Dr. Clint Moen	Ted** & Lynn** Peterson	Sawtooth Arbor Supply & Tree Care	Lori Thrun
Lindsay Moen*	Rich Petersson**	Michael & Kelene Schmidtke	Glen Tridgell**
Philip & Gina Mogen*	Pike Lake Golf & Beach Club	Carol & David Schreck	Troy's Service Center
Dennis & Barbara Mondl	Play It Again Sports	Anna Sederski*	United Truck Body
Betty Morin	Playtime Palace	Dehlia Seim*	Anna Urban*
Diane Morin*	Proctor Athletics and Fine Arts	Tricia Shumway	Valentini's
Morin Siding	Proctor Federal Credit Union	Nathanial Simpson*	Judith Vitito*
Blaine Muckala	Proctor Journal	David Skelton	Jim* & Emily* Vos
My 95.7	Chem Free Grad Party Proctor Parents Plus	Bob & Kelly* Smith	Heidi Voss*
Naturalight Candles & Craft	Proctor Pizza	Jesse Smith*	John** & Sally Ward
The Family Neher	Proctor Public Schools	Social House	Bill Watson
Travis Nelson	Liz Proepper*	Amanda Solem*	Jeffery & Anna Weis
Warren & Carol Nelson	Terry Radzak	Glen** & Mary Jane Sorenson	Kerry Welsh
Nemadji Golf	Barb Rands*	St. Luke's	Gordy Westendorf*
John Nordberg	Walter Rapp	Connie Olson Stanley	Judy Wiles
Northern Industrial Insulation	Luke * & Alli Ratike	Todd & Barb** Steen	Diane Wippler**
Northwest Outlet	Diane Rauschenfels**	Stu & Denise** Stenberg	Monte & Deborah Wittmann
Teresa Nyberg*	James & Barbara Reedstrom	Stewarts	Scott & Jessica Witty
Rita O'Connell	Reliable Agency	Stokke's	Scott & Micki Wojtysiak
Kelly Okstad*	Steven and Charlene Reno	John & Julia Stoneman	Paula * & Ron Yff
Seth Oliver	Richard I. Bong Center	Christy Strohm**	Zenith Bookstore
Marybeth Olsen	Tim* & Kara Rohweder		William Zuck



LEFT: REA³D Board Member Jim Ward shows off a very generous collection of children's books donated by Shelly Vanneste, which were given out by REA³D board members at the 2023 Proctor Hoghead parade.



RIGHT: Katie Cotrell, REA³D treasurer, flanked by husband Kyle and son Charlie, share big smiles at the 2024 Hoghead parade. A few days later, Corrie Lou Cotrell arrived!

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS 2022-23

Joann	Ahlgren	To Honor the Ahlgren Girls: Roxanne, Raylene & Robyn
Sandra	Akers	In Memory of Laura Condon
Nancy and Tom	Aldridge	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Pat	Anderson	In Memory of Laura Condon
Tom & Evonne	Anderson	In Memory of Patty Muckala
	Anonymous	In Memory of Patty Muckala
J & L	Arndt	In Memory of Patty Muckala
William & Audrey	Berglund	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Russ	Berntson	In Memory of Beverly M. Berntson
Judith	Berntson	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Andrew & Shelley	Bianca	In Memory of Patty Muckala
William and Lynette	Bonkowske	In Memory of Florence Bonkowske and Brian Gilderman, PHS Class of '76
Marilyn	Boutelle	In Memory of Pat Lowe
Barry & Judy	Bray	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Fleta	Carol	In Memory of Laura Condon; In Memory of Leif Chilman, PHS Class of 2005; In Memory of Pat Toor Lowe
Janice	Cleary	In Memory of Jim Cleary
Sandra Ruhnke	Collins	In Memory of Byron Ruhnke, Class of 1943; In Memory of Cindy Ruhnke Stauber, Class of 1967; In Memory of Lois Ruhnke, Class of 1946; In Memory of Ken Ruhnke, Class of 1972
Lynn	Dart-Nelson	In Memory of Laura Condon; to Honor LTC Kristen Auge' (Army); to honor 5 Proctor cousins, Linda, Sandra, Evelyn Soderberg, Coleen & Kathleen McDonald; In Memory of Patty Muckala; In Memory of Earl Elde
Monica	Dikeman	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Daniel & Sally	Donofrio	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Kathy & James	Doyle	To Honor Educator Patty Muckala
Jack & Nancy	Eilefson	To Honor PHS Class of 1970; In Memory of Andrew Maeckelbergh, Class of 1997; In Memory of Patty Muckala
Steven & Fay	Elder	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Pam	Elstad	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Kathleen	Erholtz	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Skip & Sandra	Fontaine	In Memory of Laura Condon; In Memory of Carol Jean Soderberg, Class of 1956
Anita	Fraundorf	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Pam	Fritch Hieb	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Marjory	Gonzales	To Honor Educator Frances Alden, Summit School
Marnie	Gould	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Gerald & Mindy	Gruber	In Memory of Joe Lane, Class of 1962
John	Gummerson	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Mary	Hains	In Memory of Laura Condon; In Memory of Patty Muckala
William & Kisty	Haller	In Memory of Laura Condon; In Memory of Patty Muckala
Quenton	Hanson	In Memory of Dennis Hanson
Sheila	Held	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Eloise	Hockett	To Honor Educator Evelyn Withrow Piersall
Josh & Rebecca	Howe	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Mary Margaret	Johnson	To Honor Elizabeth Proepper
Phil & Terri	Johnson	In Memory of Laura Condon; In Memory of Patty Muckala
Rory & Sherri	Johnson	In Memory of Laura Condon; In Memory of Patty Muckala
Ron & Sheron	Johnson	In Memory of Lavone Peterson, Ruth Gustafson, Evie Peterson, Marge Thoreson
Carol	Johnson	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Beverly & Darol	Kaufmann	In Memory of Laura Condon
Gary & Sandy	Kershaw	In Memory of Jon Larson, Class of '93
Richard & Dorothy	Knudsen	To Honor the PHS Class of 1956
Julie	Kolojeski	In Memory of Joe, Gen, Dean Kolojeski, Jo Sjodin, Carl Sjodin, Linda Folt, Jan Bort

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS 2022-23

Patti	Komulainn	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Joann	Larson	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Marlys	Lee	In Memory of Laura Condon; In Memory of Patty Muckala
Phillip & Louise	Lind	In Memory of Laura Condon; In Memory of Patty Muckala
Carol	Lonke	In Memory of Laura Condon; In Memory of Patty Muckala
Russell, Cynthia & Daughters	Lundeen	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Mike & Bonnie	Maeckelbergh	In Memory of Andrew Maeckelbergh
Connie Olson	Male	In Memory of Laura Condon, Classmate (Class of '67); In Memory of Brother Frank Olson (Class of '65)
Anthony & Annette	Merritt	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Pam	Miller	In Memory of Virginia Miller, former PHS Librarian; In Memory of Patty Muckala
Dennis & Barbara	Mondl	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Betty	Morin	In Memory of James W Morin
Blaine	Muckala	In Memory of Patty Muckala
The Family	Neher	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Travis	Nelson	To Honor the PHS Class of 1955
Warren & Carol	Nelson	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Marybeth	Olsen	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Luanne & Bob	Paquette	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Ted & Lynn	Peterson	In Memory of Laura Condon; In Memory of Patty Muckala
Jeff & Kathy	Peterson	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Rich	Petersson	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Diane	Rauschenfels	In Memory of Laura Condon; In Memory of Patty Muckala
James & Barbara	Reedstrom	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Steven & Charlene	Reno	In Memory of Waynew Swenson, PHS Class of 1964; In Memory of Darren Swenson, PHS Class of 1984
Tim & Kara	Rohweder	In Memory of Laura Condon
Emily	Rousseau	In Memory of Patty Muckala
George & Mary	Saarela	In Honor of our School Bus Drivers that safely transport children each day
Pamela	Sarvela	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Michael & Kelene	Schmidtke	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Tricia	Shumway	In Memory of Patty Muckala
David	Skelton	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Bob & Kelly	Smith	In Memory of Todd Eliason, PHS Class of 1981
Glen & Mary Jane	Sorenson	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Connie Olson	Stanley	In Memory of Laura Condon; In Memory of Patty Muckala
Todd & Barb	Steen	In Memory of Henry and Joyce Johnson; In Memory of Patty Muckala
John & Julia	Stoneman	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Peter & Kathy	Sylvester	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Charlene	Talbot	In Memory of Dave Talbot, Sr.
Terri	Thell	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Lori	Thrun	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Glen	Tridgell	In Memory of Patty Muckala
John & Sally	Ward	In Memory of Terry Egerdahl; PHS Class of 1968; In Memory of Patty Muckala
Bill	Watson	To Honor the Class of 1972
Diane	Wippler	In Memory of Laura Condon; In Memory of Patty Muckala
Monte & Deborah	Wittmann	In Memory of Patty Muckala
Scott & Micki	Wojtysiak	In Memory of Patty Muckala
William	Zuck	In Memory of Patty Muckala



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If you would like to donate an item for the auctions associated with the REA³D by Candlelight, please call Sherm or email rea3d@proctor.k12.mn.us. Items that have generated a lot of competitive bidding in the past include:

- ♦ Vintage musical instruments
- ♦ Remote car starters
- ♦ Charter fishing packages
- ♦ Airplane rides
- ♦ Golf outings
- ♦ Custom built items
- ♦ Gift certificates for entertainment
- ♦ Distilled spirits
- ♦ Experiences

**REA³D by Candlelight
"Fun"draising'Event**

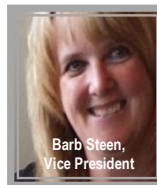
February 16, 2024

**Greysolon Plaza Ballroom
Call 218-391-0016 for tickets**

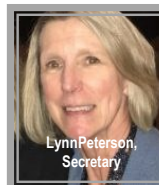
SAVE THE DATE!



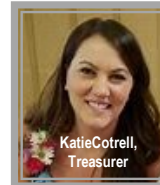
Sherm Carlson,
President



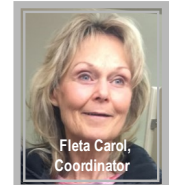
Barb Steen,
Vice President



Lynn Peterson,
Secretary



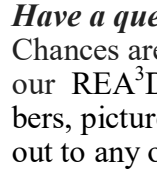
Katie Cotrell,
Treasurer



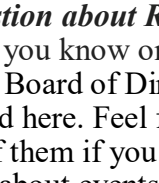
Fleta Carol,
Coordinator



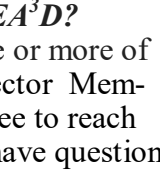
Shelly Vanneste



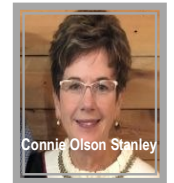
Dean Dahlvang



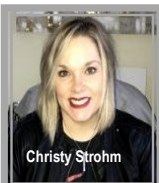
Rory Johnson



Janelle Gomez



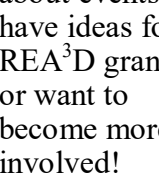
Connie Olson Stanley



Christy Strohm



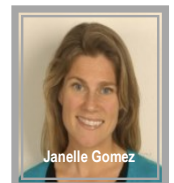
Louise Lind



Jim Ward



Roxanne Bjeld



Kelly Okstad

Have a question about REA³D?

Chances are you know one or more of our REA³D Board of Director Members, pictured here. Feel free to reach out to any of them if you have questions about events, have ideas for REA³D grants or want to become more involved!