

The scholarship winners and how they got that way!

The Jon Sigurdsson Chapter of the IODE presented fifteen scholarships this year to sixteen recipients at a program held November 8, at the Betelstadur Housing Co-op in Winnipeg. Approximately 90 people attended.

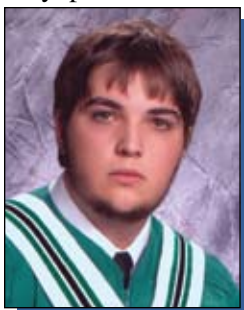
Chapter President Gunnur Isfeld, MC, welcomed everyone. The guest speaker was Thruður Helgadóttir, who brought greetings on behalf of her husband, Atli Ásmundsson, Consul General of Iceland. Deanna Isliefson, the Education Officer, presented most of the scholarships. The guests were treated to a beautiful musical performance from Jordan Laidlaw, a classical guitarist and winner of the Jon Sigurdsson Chapter IODE Music Scholarship.

A new scholarship, the Neil Bardal Scholarship, was presented this year. The chapter created this scholarship in recognition of Neil Bardal's many successes in business, his contributions to the community, and for his ongoing dedication to education. The scholarship will be presented each year to a student who has demonstrated high academic scholastic achievement and citizenship involvement. Neil presented the scholarship to an exceptional student, Kari Broadfoot.

Johanna Gudrun Skaptason Memorial Scholarship

Andrew Fletcher-Cook

Andrew is the son of Carol Fletcher and Jeff Cook of Winnipeg, MB. He is very proud of his Icelandic heritage.



His maternal grandmother is Elva Fletcher.

Andrew is an exceptional student and musician. He graduated with Honours from Transcona Col-



PHOTO: LINDA SIGURDSON COLLETTE

This group of youngsters has a great deal to smile about. Good show!

legiate with 37 credits. He had been on the Honour Roll all four years. Andrew was very involved in the extra-curricular activities of his school, being a member on the Tri-School Committee, student council, serving as treasurer, the financial manager of the school store, and Board Member of the TCI Credit Union. He was also extremely involved in the school's music program. Not only was he a member of the Concert and Jazz Bands, where he played the trumpet, he was very active in the school's musical productions, organizing, producing and performing. He has been a member of the Manitoba Intermediate and Senior Honour Bands.

Andrew has been active in his community, serving on Youth Committees in his church, bugler for all of Transcona Legion's ceremonial events, and a member of several community bands. He has also volunteered for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers as bench attendant. Upon graduation, Andrew was awarded the Transcona Collegiate Principal's Award, a University of Manitoba Entrance Scholarship and the Helen Shandruk Memorial Award.

Andrew is now in his 1st year at the University of Manitoba, School of Music. At the present time, he is still unsure of his future plans, but he is leaning towards Law, Accounting, or being a professor.

Cody Hotel

Cody is the son of Vic Hotel and Debbie Magnusson of Gimli, MB. His maternal grandparents are Lorne and



Doreen Magnusson of Gimli, and his great-grandparents were Einar and Inga Magnusson of Hnaua and Winnipeg, and Jon and Jonina Vigfusson of Riverton.

Cody is an outstanding student, having maintained an extraordinary 94% average in all course areas during his high school years at Gimli High School. He has been very involved in extra-curricular activities, both in and outside of school, where he has taken significant leadership roles. As Co-Chair of the Student Council, he was instrumental in the organization and implementation of various student led events in the school. He was a founding member of the Respect ED group, that researched and prepared specific topics relating to students, and then gave presentations to every class in the school. These topics included Bullying, Harassment and Homophobia. Cody was a member of the Youth Community Partnership Committee. This group was recognized with the Premier's Voluntary Service Award. He also took part in the World Vision Thirty Hour Famine. Cody

played lead Trumpet on the Senior Concert and Jazz Bands. The latter has been recognized as one of the top 20 school Jazz Bands in North America by the 'Jazz at the Lincoln Center - Essentially Ellington' competition in New York.

Cody was also involved in sports, taking part in volleyball, golf, curling, badminton and recreational hockey, and has volunteered as a coach for youth curling, and as a minor hockey referee. He has also been a judge for the Manitoba Schools' Science Symposium for Middle Years School in his area. Cody has been recognized for his accomplishments with many scholarships, not only for his academics, but also for his leadership and music. Cody is now attending the University of Manitoba, University I. He plans a career in Pharmacy.

Jon Sigurdsson IODE Members Memorial Scholarship

Amanda Einarson

Amanda is the daughter of Kelvin and Kelly Einarson of Hnausa, MB. Amanda's father's family came to Canada from Iceland in the late 1800's. Her grandparents are Kelly and Kelving also of Hnausa.



Amanda is currently in her 3rd year at the University of Manitoba, a co-op student at the I.H. Asper School of Business. She has excelled academically while in university, being on the Dean's Honour List. Her G.P.A after her second year was 3.65. She has received awards every year while in school for academics, athletics and citizenship, and has recently received a St. John's College Student Association Award and the Riverton Elks Award. Amanda is a member of St. John's College at the U of M and has been actively involved in St. John's College Student Association, serving as First Year Residence Representative, sat on the Programming Committee, and last year was treasurer. She is also involved in the Asper Student's Co-Operative Association, and a member of the Asper School of Business Accounting Association.

In the past, Amanda has been ex-

tremely involved in the 4-H program in Arborg, where she held many executive positions and sat on many committees. She participated in many Club, District, Regional and National 4-H events, and attended many camps pertaining to 4-H. Even though she is no longer a member, she is currently a member of 4-H Ambassadors, holding the position of Chair of the Social Committee, and President Elect, next year she will be President.

While in high school Amanda volunteered in her community, at events at Riverton-Bifrost Parks and Recreation, also as a soccer coach, assistant figure skating coach, worked in the canteen at the arena, and at a Farm Safety Day Camp.

Amanda's goal is to become a Chartered Accountant.

Hildur Guttormson Memorial Scholarship

Elin Thordarson

Elin is the daughter of Jon and Janice Thordarson of Winnipeg. She is a fourth generation, Winnipeg-born Western Ice-lander.



Elin graduated from the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor of Arts (Advanced) in 2003, Dean's Honour List. Elin has been employed for the past four and half years as a bi-lingual Coder with the North American office of an international Market Research company, where her dedication to the responsibilities of her job has been outstanding.

While she has been with this company, she has been determined to further her education by taking university courses.

She has been able to balance work with her studies and continue to maintain excellent grades. She has respectfully declined promotion within the department to allow her to focus on her education. This past summer, Elin was awarded the Olson/Jonsson Travel Scholarship.

Elin is also a visual artist in the mediums of ink and paint, some of her work has been purchased. She volun-

teers yearly with the Alzheimer Society.

Elin is now attending the University of Manitoba, Department of Icelandic Language and Literature Pre-Masters program. She is planning on focusing her independent research on the modern Western Icelandic population in Manitoba.

Jon Sigurdsson Chapter IODE Music Scholarship

Jordan Laidlaw

Jordan is the son of Susan Laidlaw of Winnipeg. Jordan graduated from Miles MacDonnell Collegiate in 2007. He completed the International Baccalaureate Music Program with an outstanding 98% mark.



Jordan is presently in his

2nd year at the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Music, pursuing a Bachelors of Music in Classical Guitar Performance (with a minor in composition), later to complete a Masters in Music. He is planning a career as a Manitoba Conservatory Teacher/Performer.

In his first year at the School of Music, U of M, Jordan was a top five finalist for the Lawrence Genser Scholarship competition. The competition is reserved for the faculty's potential top performers. He not only was the youngest student, but also the first classical guitarist to make the finals in over a decade.

Jordan has done extremely well in music, considering he only started playing guitar while in Junior High School. While still in high school, he won 1st place in many competitions including the University of Manitoba Faculty of Music Preparatory Division Enrichment Program Scholarship Competition in the Senior Division and the Manitoba Conservatory of Music & Arts Advanced Strings Competition. Jordan performs every year at the Winnipeg Music Festival, and has won many gold medals in senior classical guitar, and was chosen to represent senior classical guitar competing in the Beryl Ferguson Memorial Trophy Competition. In 2007, he received a 93% grade at ARCT Diploma level and was a top contender for the Aikins Trophy.

Through scholarship winnings he has been granted many masterclass opportunities with international classical guitarists sponsored by the Winnipeg Classical Guitar Society. Recognized for his talent and promise as an advanced music student, he was invited in 2007, to perform as lead soloist with the Winnipeg Symphony, in a series of outreach programs. Jordan has proven that he has what it takes to be a world class concert guitarist. The future is very bright for him.

Snjolaug Gillis Memorial Scholarship

Donna Turton

Donna is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. George Turton of Swan River, MB.

Donna, a single mother of two small children, is a second year student-nurse at the University of Manitoba, School of Nursing. She did extremely well during her first year in the Faculty of Nursing, she is on the Dean's Honour List, her GPA is 3.30.



Donna had attended university previously. Now as a mature student returning to university, she has a number of responsibilities and has overcome a number of personal challenges. Nevertheless, she produces work of the highest caliber. She has decided that educating herself and having a career in a profession she has always loved would be her best choice for providing for her family. She hopes that in the future she will be able to help others who have had similar experiences as the ones she has overcome.

Donna is active in her community, volunteering at Laura Secord School and at Robert A. Steen Community Club. She is also involved with the St. Charles Soccer Club and the Doreen Bissett School of Dance, as well as many other community events and activities.

Gyda Naylor Memorial Scholarship

Anne Hedley

Anne is the daughter of Jim Hedley and Cathie Eliasson of Winnipeg. Her great Amma and Afi were Freda and

Konrad Johannesson who were first generation Canadians. Konrad was a member of the 1920 Olympic gold medal winning hockey team. Their daughter Connie was her Amma.

Anne received a Bachelor of Recreational Management and Community



Development from the University of Manitoba in 2006, Dean's Honour List. During these years, she received several scholarships and awards in recognition of her academic and athletic achievements. For the past two years, Anne has worked as an educational assistant at Kelvin High School and Lord Roberts Elementary School. The experience of working with needy students helped her decide that her future lies in the teaching profession. She is planning on becoming a Middle Years teacher.

Anne is now in her second year at the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Education. She is again on the Dean's Honour List with a GPA of 3.46.

Sports has always played an important role in Anne's life. During her years at the U of M she played on the Bison Women's Hockey team, taking on the role of captain in 2005. Anne has coached a hockey team in the Winnipeg Junior Women's Hockey League, and she continues to play in a Senior Women's league. She has volunteered for various Special Olympic programs, at the Movement Centre of Manitoba for fundraising and special events, and was on the planning committee for the Heart and Stroke Foundation's "Walk for Life".

E.I. Benjaminson Memorial Scholarship

Faith Cormier

Faith is the daughter of Margaret Helgason of Winnipeg. Margaret's family first arrived in Canada from Iceland in 1903.

Faith is currently a 3rd year student at the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Science, majoring in Biology. She is on the Science Honour Roll. Her GPA after two years is 3.76. She is planning a ca-

reer in Medicine.

Faith graduated Cum Laude with a French Immersion diploma from Vincent Massey Collegiate in 2006. At that time she received several scholarships for her academic excellence.



Throughout her high school and university years, Faith has been very involved in her school and community. She has attended many conferences to develop leadership skills. At the age of 14, Faith began volunteering with Fort Whyte Alive summer camps and birthday parties. After volunteering at Fort Whyte Centre for several years, she was promoted to a paid position as Head Counsellor, Section Coordinator and then again Head Counsellor in the summer of 2008. In high school, she was on the grad committee, was a representative for her school at various conferences and meetings, relating to her status as a French Immersion student, has volunteered with Youth in Philanthropy, the Christmas Cheer Board delivering food hampers, Boo at the Zoo, and participated in the Grey Cup Parade. This past year, she has volunteered weekly at the Health Sciences Centre and the Children's Hospital, and also volunteers at Ronald McDonald House.

As you can see, Faith leads a very busy life, but she has found time to play soccer, and in 2007 was Team Captain for her team in the University Co-ed Intramural Soccer League. She has received Grade 8 Piano with First Class Honours, and she speaks three languages, English, French and Spanish.

Kristin Stephensen Music Scholarship

Emma Gordon

Emma is the daughter of William and Kathleen Gordon of Brandon, MB. Her great-great-grandparents Thorleifur Thorvaldson and Malmfridur Gudlaug Jensdottir immigrated to Canada in 1889, settling in Brandon. Her great-grandmother, Christin (Thorvaldson) MacKeen was born in Canada, and her grandmother, Margaret (MacKeen) Granger lives in Winnipeg.

Emma graduated with Honours from Vincent Massey High School in Brandon this past June. She is an outstanding student and musician. She graduated



with a 95% average and 36 credits. Emma is now in her 1st year at Brandon University, School of Music. She is planning on taking a five year Bach. of Music Degree and will

graduate with both a Bach. of Music and a Bach. of Education.

While in high school, Emma was very involved in extra curricular activities. She was a member of: Teens Against Drinking and Driving, the choir, band, wind ensemble, bowling team, Reach for the Top team, and took part in the school's major productions, performing lead roles.

Emma is very involved in music. She has studied the piano for 12 years, attaining grade 10 Level RCM, and grade 3 Theory. She has won many awards and scholarships in the Brandon Festival of Arts, and was selected as their representative in the Provincial Music Festival on two occasions. Emma has participated in several local and regional choirs, and has sung in Brandon University Conservatory Chorale, the Western Manitoba Youth Choir, and Brandon University Women's Voices. She has played the Oboe for 6 years and the English Horn for 2 years. She has been a member of the Westman Honour Band and the Brandon Community Orchestra, and has attended the International Music Camp for three years. Emma has also studied dance for 14 years at the Brandon School of Dance and has been a member of the Brandon Dance Ensemble for the past five years. Her dance group has won many awards and trophies. She has also performed in community musicals with Seven Ages Productions.

As busy as she has been, Emma has volunteered for the Brandon Jazz Festival, and also helped younger dance and piano students during rehearsals and performances. Emma is truly an outstanding young musician.

Eugene and Rose Clyde Memorial Scholarship

Jessica Ann Flynn

Jessica is the daughter of Brian and Robin Flynn of Winnipeg. She graduated Cum Laude from Fort Richmond Collegiate in 2004, receiving several scholarships in recognition of her academic achievements.



Jessica successfully completed a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Geography at the

University of Manitoba this past May. She did exceptionally well, graduating on the Dean's Honour List. She is now enrolled at the University of Manitoba in Year 1 of a Bachelor of Education Degree.

Jessica has been very active in extra curricular activities both while in high school and university. She was able to provide leadership in the Peer Support (Counselling) Program by having completed Level 1 and 2 training sessions. She participated in Junior Leadership Program at the University of Manitoba, Mini University. She was on the Yearbook committee, helped organize school activities, Gym Riot, fundraiser for Heart and Stroke Foundation, helped at the Winnipeg High School Hockey Championships. She has volunteered as a Sparks (Girl Guide) Leader, at children's events, Children's Hospital Tea and Craft Sale, "Boo at the Zoo", "Teddy Bears' Picnic", "Save the Seine" Cleanup, and helped during the Red River in Flood in 1997. All of these experiences helped her to obtain a Teaching Assistantship at the University of Manitoba teaching first year students. Sports has also been important to her. She has been a competitor in soccer and rowing, and has also run in the Manitoba Marathon.

Jessica is planning on becoming an Early Years Teacher.

Kenneth G. Howard Scholarship

Theodoros Zegeye-Gebrehiwot

Theodoros (Teddy) is the son of Taye and Aikaterini Zegeye-Gebrehiwot of Winnipeg.

Theodoros is an outstanding student.

He graduated from Vincent Massey Collegiate with Honours in 2005 and received several scholarships recognizing his academic achievements, including University of Manitoba Advanced



Early Admission and Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Scholarship Enhancement.

Theodoros is currently attending the University of Manitoba,

Faculty of Arts, in his 3rd year, majoring in Film Studies. His GPA is 4.11, he is on the Dean's Honour List. Theodoros is planning a career in Film Making. George Toles, Distinguished Professor of English, Chair, Film Studies, U of M. states: "Teddy is, quite simply, as gifted an undergraduate student as I have encountered in more than thirty years as a professor of literature and film at the University of Manitoba".

Theodoros has dedicated much time and effort to his community through volunteering in a national youth program called Katimavik, as well as in various high school organizations including the student council as treasurer. The Katimavik program is a government sponsored youth program made up of about 90 groups annually. The groups, made up of 11 youth aged 17-21, volunteer for 9 months, 35-40 hours a week, in 3 different regions of Canada for 3 months each, all while living together. Theodoros lived in Saskatchewan, Quebec, and British Columbia and volunteered with the Canadian Mental Health Association, working at a drop-in centre for people with mental issues, Le Comptoir Alimentaire, working at a food bank, and the Women's Food and Water Initiative, a food security and urban farming organization. In 2005 he took a 5 week Summer Language Bursary Program, and the year before the Katimavik program, he took an introductory French course at university so he could become more fluent in our second language. He was able to put his knowledge of French to use while he was in Quebec while also learning even more of the language.

Anna Skaptason Memorial Scholarship

Carly Swain

Carly is the daughter of Don and Margaret Swain of Lockport, MB. Carly's maternal grandparents are Jack and Sveinbjorg Bjornson. Her great grandparents were Jakob and Sigridur Gudjonsson of the Hnausa area, and Gudmundur and Ragnhildur Bjornson of the Framnes area of Manitoba.



Carly is currently in her 2nd year at Brandon University, School of Music, where she is doing extremely

well. She is on the Honour List. She is planning a career as a music educator.

Carly graduated with Honours from Lord Selkirk Regional Comprehensive Secondary School in 2006. She had taken a very demanding program with emphasis on Music within the academic program. She acquired an amazing 42.5 credits during her high school years. She was a member of the choir where she was on the Choir Executive, holding the position of Co-Chair in her final year. She was also a member of the school's symphonic and jazz bands, Saxophone Section Leader in Grade 12. At Band Camp she coordinated a Talent Show. She received many awards and scholarships in recognition of her academic and musical achievements.

Carly attended the University of Manitoba for one year. While there she was a member of the Concert Band, the Women's Choir and a saxophone quartet. At Brandon University she is a member of the Concert Choir and the Symphonic Band.

Carly has also find time to volunteer in her community. She has volunteered at the Manitoba Band Association's Summer Camp in Selkirk, has sung in her church choir, helped in the Sunday School music program, performed at Betel Home's Birthday parties for the Icelandic National League. As well, she has performed for the last five years at the Icelandic National League's "First Day of Summer," sung "O Canada" at Selkirk Steelers hockey games, at Selkirk's Citizen of the Year Dinner, and at

Canada Day celebrations in Selkirk.

Margaret Skaptason Memorial Scholarship

Heather Wilton

Heather is the daughter of Doug and Linda Wilton of Carmen, MB. Heather is presently in her 2nd year at the Uni-



versity of Manitoba, Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences. After her 1st year her GPA was 3.50. She plans on obtaining a Degree in Animal Science and becoming a Veterinarian or Livestock Producer/Farmer.

Heather is an outstanding student. She was home-schooled, both elementary and high school. She grew up on a farm, and being the oldest of six children, she took part in all the farm chores and activities. She has trained and shown horses since a young age, and has, and continues to raise her own flock of Dorper and Dorper cross ewes. Dorpers are a new breed to Canada from South Africa. She is the Director for the Manitoba Dorper Society. Heather is trying to build up her flock so she will only have purebreds. Over the years she has shown her sheep at fairs across Canada. She has worked on a dairy for five years, where she is responsible for milking 150 cows. When she started her studies at university she had to commute daily to the U of M from the Carmen area, while working at the dairy in Elm Creek. She overcame this difficulty by moving to Winnipeg, so she would be able to continue working at the dairy, and also keep up her grades.

Heather is also very involved in her community. She plays piano for her church occasionally and leads children in Sunday Directives. She was a very active 4-H member, held all officer positions, was a Leader for two years, participated in fundraising events, taught new members how to ride horses, organized and led the Graysville Musical Ride, and took part in the 4-H public speaking program where she advanced to the regionals.

Halli and Gudrun Bjornson Memorial Scholarship

James Bjornson

James is the son of Tom and Shelley Bjornson of



Arborg, MB. His great grandparents were Halli and Gudrun Bjornson who homesteaded in the Riverton area. James' parents have recently moved to

Balaton Beach, only a few miles from Halli and Gudrun's homestead.

James received a Bachelor of Science from the University of Manitoba in 2007, and is now in his final year of a Bachelor of Education. James is an excellent and dedicated student.

Throughout his years at university, he is now in his sixth year, he has paid his full tuition and rent as well as all the other extras included in a University education, while living away from home. He has done this by working very hard during the summers, as a carpenter and on a farm in his hometown.

James graduated from Arborg Collegiate in 2003, and last year he volunteered in the Grade 9 Science classroom at his former high school, teaching the students about the life cycles of the stars. James' extra-curricular activities have always included hockey. While he was in high school he coached Arborg's Bantam Hockey team. He continues to play in the University recreation hockey league. He also is on a tutor bank at the University of Manitoba where he is able to help other students. He feels this is very valuable experience that will help him in the future when he becomes a High School Physics/Math Teacher.

Neil Bardal Scholarship

Kari Broadfoot

Kari is the daughter of Grant and Lorna Broadfoot of Woodlands, MB. Her great grandfather came from Iceland. Her paternal Amma is Jonina Stefansson.

Kari graduated with Honours, achieving a 93.5% average in grade 12, from Warren Collegiate this past June.

She is not only an outstanding student academically but her leadership and volunteering record is amazing. She has been awarded several scholarships and



awards. She was very involved in all aspects of her school. She was President of the Student Council, on the Year-book Committee, MTC, Teens Against Drinking and Driving,

Book Club, House Team Committee, member of "Student Voice", Youth in Philanthropy, a member of the basketball and volleyball teams, captain on both teams. As president of the student council, she coordinated many school events and fundraisers: "Wigs for Kids", 30 Hour Famine, and a World Vision fundraiser. With the student council, she worked with the Rural Municipality of Woodlands Community Development Corporation to coordinate and hold an event to recognize volunteers. At this event she was awarded a 2008 Youth Engagement Award. Kari received training as a "Lungs for Life" presenter, and shared this knowledge with Junior High students in the local school. Kari has been nominated and attended many conferences locally, provincially and globally. She was nominated in both 2007

and 2008 for the Global Youth Leadership Conference held annually in Washington, DC.

Not only has Kari been extremely busy at school, she is also a very active volunteer in her community. She has: volunteered at Oak Park Lodge (senior residence), chaperone and DJ at children's dances, worked in canteen at Recreation Centre, coached and refereed volleyball and basketball at elementary school, helped implement the first soccer program in the community, delivered Christmas Hampers for Christmas Cheer Board, created a local chapter "Children's Wish" web page, participated in Highway Clean-ups, and in February of this year, along with her sisters organized a Sunday School in their local church.

Kari is presently attending the University of Winnipeg in her first year. She is planning on becoming a doctor. Kari is truly a very deserving recipient of the Neil Bardal Scholarship.

Jon Sigurdsson IODE Special Achievement Award

James Scowen

James is the son of Ainsley Thorarinson Scowen Bloomer and Russell Scowen, and the stepson of Vaughn Bloomer all of Winnipeg. His maternal grandparents were Sigurstein Aleck and Steinun Emily Thorarinson (Isleifson) of Win-

nipeg, and his great-grand parents were Metusalem(Silas) Thorarinson and Katrina Siguros Davidson, and Thorstein Isleifson and Sarah Bjarnadottir. James' stepfather's mother is Lorraine Bloomer (nee Laxdal). Her parents were Sigurdur Laxdal and Karrie Dalman.

James graduated from Shaftesbury High School in 2007. He was awarded the



Pembina Trails Association of Non-Teaching Employees Excellence Award 2006-2007. He then attended Winnipeg Technical College, where he obtained

a Microcomputer Systems Technician Certificate. He did his practicums at CompuSmart and Grant Park High School.

James has volunteered with his mom at Folkklarama, at Íslendingadagarinn in Gimli, and at Kvennahlaup. He also has willingly shared his computer skills with others by helping them when they have problems.

At the present time, James is attending the University of Winnipeg part-time, and working part-time with Thomas Sill Foundation as a computer repairman. He is hoping to work towards a career in the film industry as a director.