

AWS Idaho/Montana Section Announces the 2009-2010 Welding Scholarship Recipients

2009-2010 scholarships funds for Idaho/Montana recipients total \$3000.00 with \$500.00 from the Paul O'Leary Memorial scholarship, \$1250.00 from District scholarship funds, and \$1250.00 from Section scholarship funds. These funds were awarded to five outstanding recipients.

Tawnya Hermanson, a Welding Engineering student and incoming senior at Montana Tech, is the first recipient of the Paul O'Leary Memorial – Idaho/Montana Section Scholarship. In addition to being a full-time student, Tawnya works for Welding Services of Butte, MT – a firm founded by Paul O'Leary – and now run by his son, Kerry. She is also busy studying for her CWI exam which she will take in the late summer. To help Tawnya with tuition and fee expenses, the Paul O'Leary Memorial scholarship will provide \$500.00 and combined with a \$250.00 Idaho/Montana Section scholarship, she will receive a total of \$750.00 in scholarship funds for the upcoming academic year.

Three welding students received both District and Section scholarships to assist with their 2009-2010 welding studies:

- **Shane Krause**, a Welding Engineering student and incoming senior at Montana Tech, was awarded a \$500.00 District scholarship and a \$250.00 Section scholarship. Shane has an outstanding welding background and managed a welding shop while serving in the US Navy prior to returning to Tech to complete his welding engineering degree.
- **Jeffrey Jones**, a second year student in the Treasure Valley Community College associate's degree in welding program and an Idaho/Montana scholarship recipient for the second time, was awarded a \$375.00 District scholarship and a \$125.00 Section scholarship. According to Jeffrey's welding instructor at TVCC, he would like to have a class full of students like Jeffrey – hardworking, courteous, and eager to learn all about welding processes.
- **Miguel Vasquez**, a first year student in the Idaho State University – VoTech 2-year associate's degree welding program, was awarded a \$375.00 District scholarship and a \$125.00 Section scholarship. Miguel competed in a SkillUSA welding competition at ISU and was so impressed with the welding staff that he applied to their welding program. With only one year of high school welding training, Miguel finished in the top ten of the welders at the SkillsUSA event.

Christopher Hale, a first year student in the University of Montana – College of Technology 2-year associate's degree welding program, was awarded as \$500.00 Section scholarship. Chris, who received a GMAW machine for his 17th birthday and has been mentored in welding processes by family friends, is really anxious to start COT's welding program. One of his first welding projects was to make an impressive front bumper for a truck he is restoring.

How can you help? If you have a passion for supporting our future welders, please consider making a scholarship donation to the Idaho/Montana Section scholarship fund or establish a Section Named scholarship, like the Paul O'Leary Memorial – Idaho Montana Section Scholarship. Contact Nancy M. Carlson at 208-523-9128 or at nancymcarlson@msn.com .