

HELLO AGAIN TO FELLOW IBPF MEMBERS AND OTHER SUBSCRIBERS TO THE PHN!

I hope everyone is enjoying the “early” spring weather. Even way up here in the northwest corner of Iowa I had to mow my lawn twice in the month of March. Definitely a first!

As many of you know the annual spring IBPF meeting was held on March 17, 2012. As always, several of the agenda items prompted some very good discussion. While my intent here isn't to elaborate on those exchanges, I do want to express my appreciation to such a dedicated team of board members. We certainly are “a group of people with a deep abiding interest in establishing an organization that promotes opportunities” for its members. I encourage all members to take the time to attend some of the meetings.

As announced in previous issues of the PHN, the spring meeting is when IBPF Scholarship Program applications are reviewed and winners selected. This is our second year for this member benefit. The review process includes confirming that the participants have met all the eligibility requirements and their submitted essays are examined for content. After some discussion about the participants a motion was made and accepted by the board to award each of three applicants with \$400.00 scholarships.

So, please join me in congratulating the following scholarship recipients:

Kyle Stanley of Sanborn, Iowa, who is attending Norwest Iowa Community College in Sheldon.

Heidi Eichelberger of West Des Moines, Iowa who is attending Mercy College of Health Sciences in Des Moines.

Brennan Lawrence of Des Moines, Iowa, who will be attending University of Iowa in Iowa City.

These remarkable young adults met all the eligibility requirements and submitted to the board an essay that demonstrated their individual abilities as well as their in depth understanding of the IBPF mission and purpose. In our handout and on our web page it says in part that we are an organization interested in passing on to others (especially our youth) those attributed that we firmly believe in; safety, family, friends and the great outdoors. It is comforting to know that the future of those beliefs is in such capable hands. **CONGRATULATIONS to the 2012 Scholarship winners!**

The essays these aspiring scholars composed was specific to their interaction of the IBPF Preamble to the Constitution. Their work was very impressive and I invite all who is

reading this to find that preamble at the end of this article. And while reading it take a few minutes to think about your involvement, the impact you may have had on others and what you've done to invest in the future of your organization. Participation comes in many forms; attending IBPF sponsored shoots, buying raffle tickets (which by the way is what funds the scholarship program), participating in our postal matches, helping out at the shoots, attending IBPF meetings, getting family members involved, inviting non-members to join in our outstanding ranks and any other action that promotes "your" federation. Think about the way things were when you first joined the federation and how those things have evolved over time. By its nature our organization is in constant state of change and in my time here the change has been very good. I attribute that to you, the members. Thank you for that.

In closing I respectfully thank you for taking the time to read this article, I look forward to attending this years events with you and if you should happen to see any of the scholarship winners be sure to congratulate them.

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Preamble to the Constitution of the
"IOWA BLACK POWDER FEDERATION"

We, a group of people with a deep abiding interest in black powder firearms do, band together to form the IOWA BLACK POWDER FEDERATION to promote the safe use of black powder firearms for hunting and target shooting; to encourage the collection and display of black powder firearms as a means of passing on to the emerging generations a sense of their history and importance in the building of safe, dependable black powder firearms for modern use; and to establish an organization that will provide opportunities for black powder shooters to engage in shooting on a state wide basis

(See IBPF website for qualification. Send essay to Secretary or Board Member by March 1st, 2013)