

## **THE TRAIL BLAZERS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

### **Offered in 2017 in honor of Bob Pfeifer and Henry Mills**

#### **Background:**

The Trail Blazers is a volunteer organization that contributes its time, energy and knowledge toward helping the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to enhance recreational alpine fishing. Members participate in a variety of studies, conservation and wilderness protection activities, camp cleanups, stream restoration and trail maintenance, but the fish stocking and surveying activities have given the Trail Blazers their focus that has endured since 1933.

Henry Mills was a Trail Blazer since 1989. Henry enjoyed leaving the designated trail and disappearing into the woods to find peace and quiet and where he could fish in a remote mountain lake. Henry, with his treasured Ray Jardine ultralight backpack, had high lake stocking down to a science. He also enjoyed what he called “high altitude tourism” and made trips to climb Aconcagua in Argentina where his upbeat personality kept his partners spirits up in spite of hurricane force winds and freezing temperatures. In Tanzania, his determination to reach the 19,308ft Kilimanjaro summit, even when near collapse, was an inspiration to his partners. Henry made his last trip to Tank Lakes when he was 70 years old. As they temporarily parted ways to stock different lakes, his companions fondly remember Henry smiling with gratitude for that beautiful day in the mountains as he continued alone across rough country.

Bob Pfeifer first joined the Trail Blazers in 1998 after a career with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Bob literally wrote the book on high lakes fishery management for the WDFW. In 2001, at about the same time as that effort was completed, in he became club Treasurer and worked through the officer chairs until serving as club President in 2004. He was the High Lakes Maintenance Chairperson for two years and served on the scholarship committee. Bob was an inspiration to all he encountered; he never cut corners or did anything by half measures, whether it was work, play, or listening to his beloved jazz. Bob was also passionate about visiting and restoring historic fire lookouts. The high lake fisheries and countless people will continue to benefit from his efforts in the years to come.

The Trail Blazers, Inc. are most interested in assisting students who seek a career that will enhance the management of wilderness, natural resources and fisheries science in Washington State’s mountains.

#### **Eligibility:**

To be eligible for consideration, students must complete the attached application form and submit it along with the attachments requested. It must be received by May 15 of the year of the award.

#### **Student Selection:**

Applicants will be judged on the criteria of scholarship, leadership, integrity, and other personal achievements. Please describe how your interests align with our mission of enjoying and enhancing recreational alpine fishing. Preference will be given to those applicants who demonstrate an interest in pursuing careers that involve professional work in Washington’s high country. (Examples: forester, fisheries scientist, geologist, wildlife biologist, botanist, or wilderness recreation specialist.) Since students usually do not know for certain where their professional careers will begin, the applicant should give some detail as to the probability of their working in Washington State. Applicants with existing or planned research work in Washington’s high country will be given additional preference.

**Awards:**

One qualified student will be selected to receive a \$1,000 one-time scholarship.

Applications are available at the Trail Blazers website: [www.watrailblazers.org](http://www.watrailblazers.org). Email completed application materials to [ryanseamusdunne@gmail.com](mailto:ryanseamusdunne@gmail.com).

Refer any questions and/or comments to:

Trail Blazers Scholarship Committee

c/o Ryan Dunne

15420 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave NE

Shoreline, WA 98155

[ryanseamusdunne@gmail.com](mailto:ryanseamusdunne@gmail.com)

**THE TRAIL BLAZERS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

**Offered in 2017 in honor of Bob Pfeifer and Henry Mills**

**Due May 15, 2017**

To be considered, a student must have a complete application packet. All applications will be reviewed by the selection committee only and are confidential.

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please include the following with your application:

1. Complete application form
2. Current transcript
3. Current resume
4. Two letters of recommendation from a sponsor or staff member of the student's current school
5. A typed double-spaced personal essay. The essay should include a description of the student's community or outdoor service, interests, professional goals and the area of study being pursued. It should also contain a discussion of the student's outdoor activities, and a statement on why he/she is worthy of this award