

“This Valley is so fortunate to have this Foundation as the magnitude of its contributions to the youth and their families is almost impossible to measure!”

Veto “Sonny” LaSalle

Veto “Sonny” LaSalle was born in Birmingham, Alabama and graduated from Auburn University in 1965 with a degree in Forest Management. In the fall of 1965, he moved to the West Fork of the Bitterroot National Forest to start his career with the Forest Service.

The following year in July, Sonny and Judy were married. While residing at the West Fork Ranger Station they had two children, a boy and a girl who were born in Missoula.

Starting in 1971, they began moving for Sonny to advance in his career. They moved eleven times before finally landing in Colorado where Sonny worked as the Forest Service Supervisor of the White River Nation Forest and Judy worked in the Silk, Colorado School System.

They eventually retired in 1997 and relocated

NEWEST EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER HIGHLIGHT



Sonny & Judy LaSalle

back to the Bitterroot Valley where they started second “careers” volunteering for a variety of organizations. Judy joined, among other civic groups, the Bitterroot Quilt Guild and her small group of “Comforters” have made and donated over a 1,000 lap quilts to the Marcus Daly Hospital Hospice Center.

Sonny volunteered as president with the Bitterroot Cross Country Ski Club when the Gordon Reese Cabin was constructed at the Chief Joe Ski Area and donated to the Forest Service. He also was on the Ravalli County Planning Board, a twenty-one member

citizens group that wrote the “Ravalli County Growth Policy.” He served on the Marcus Daly Hospital Board of Directors, which he chaired in 2005. This was a time of rapid growth and change for the Hospital with the addition of the Emergency Department, the rehab Center, as well as the addition of specialty doctors such as neuro surgery.

Sonny remains devoted to Ravalli County’s future, proven by his continual commitment to volunteering with such organizations as: Ravalli Co. Museum Board, Head Start, Daly Mansion Board, Foundation for the Diocese of Helena, and the Stock Farm Greater Ravalli Foundation. Recently, Sonny became the facilitator for the Ravalli County Collaborative.

Sonny is honored to have been invited to join the Executive Board of the SFGRE. This Valley is so fortunate to have this Foundation. The magnitude of its contributions to the youth and their families is almost impossible to measure!

THANK YOU FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Esteemed Donors and members of the Stock Farm Club,

As the Executive Director of our Foundation, I am filled with gratitude as I pen this letter to express our deepest appreciation for your unwavering support and generosity over the last 22 years. Your contributions have played a pivotal role in the success of our mission and have touched the lives of many in ways beyond measure. Your belief in our cause and your willingness to stand by us through your donations have been nothing short of inspirational. It is because of your kindness and philanthropy that we have been able to make a real difference in the lives of those we serve in Ravalli County. Your support has enabled us to implement impactful programs, provide essential services, and bring hope to those who need it the most.

It is not just the financial support that we are grateful for, but also the trust and confidence that you have placed in us. Your belief in our vision has been a driving force behind our work, motivating us to strive for excellence and to always put our beneficiaries first. As we move forward, we are committed to upholding the trust you have placed in us and to continuing our mission with the integrity, transparency, and compassion. Your support serves as a constant reminder of the positive change that can be achieved when individuals come together for a common cause.

In closing, I want to once again extend my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for your generosity, your kindness, and your commitment to the Foundation. Your contributions have made a lasting impact, and we are truly grateful for your continued support. If you have not yet donated to the Foundation, please consider doing so during our 24-hour Online Giving Event in celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Stock Farm Club on July 20, 2024.

With deepest appreciation, thank you.

Deb Gabelhausen

BOARD MEMBERS AND FOUNDATION OFFICERS

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Our Higher Purpose

It may surprise you to know that Montana's Ravalli County is one of the poorest counties not only in Montana, but in all the United States. The farther south on Highway 93 from Missoula, the more impoverished the county gets. That's why in 2002, a collection of Stock Farm Club members got together to improve the lives of the children and families of Ravalli County and the Foundation was born. Generous giving to those in need has always been a high priority for the members and residents of the Stock Farm Club, and we thank you for your interest and past support. We would be a foundation in name only without your generous gifts.

Our Mission

The Stock Farm Greater Ravalli Foundation seeks to financially support the growth and development of Ravalli County's public education system by addressing three specific needs, which comprise the basis of daily life in Ravalli County.

- 1. EDUCATION**
Provide technology, books, classroom supplies, and teacher support for Ravalli County public schools.
- 2. SCHOLARSHIPS**
Provide college scholarships to high school graduating seniors attending two-year and four-year colleges or technical schools. Also provide workforce certified students and grants for non-profits and projects in Ravalli County.
- 3. SUSTENANCE**
Provide grocery cards, meals and warm winter clothing for students and families in Ravalli County.
- 4. YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH**
Fund professional development in youth mental health to all teachers in Ravalli County (550 teachers in the 2024 school year). In addition, help fund mental health resources in Ravalli County through specific grants.

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS TO DATE

\$1,400,000

TOTAL TEACHER SUPPLIES & EDUCATION

\$1,100,000

TOTAL SUSTENANCE

\$5,100,000

TOTAL SCHOLARSHIPS



Dear Members of the Greater Ravalli Foundation,
We are finishing the first semester of the PLTW curriculum that you so generously helped fund. It has been a fabulous experience for our students as they learn about the biomedical sciences through challenging scenarios, engaging labs + fun activities. Thank you so much for your support!

Sincerely,
The HHS PLTW team
Annawyn Griffin,
Marie Antoniali, +
Dietrich Perchy.

Greater Ravalli Foundation -
Thank you so much for your generous donation of winter gear for our students. They were so well received. Your impact in our community is very appreciated!
- Molly Cherry
J5-B counselor

The Kids Really Love Their New Winter Gear - I wish you could see their faces when they see their new winter gear. Thank you so much for your generous donation for our kids + families!
- Lindsey Trauberg

Thank you for the donation of the winter gear. The kids loved having the new gear. They still haven't taken it off!
- CSCT
- Thank you so much for your amazing support. It's great to see our kids smiling and warm - McKenzie Lush HS counselor

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS GIFT FOR OUR STUDENTS + FAMILIES. WE ALL APPRECIATE IT.
- Paula Lampi

The people associated w/ your foundation are AMAZING! Thank you so much for taking care of our communities youth! You not only provide for their physical needs but you boost their self-esteem + feelings of importance. Sherris Williams

DEB-

THANK YOU AND THE STOCKFARM GREATER RAVALLI FOUNDATION FOR YOUR GENEROUS GRANT TO THE STEVENSVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT. THIS MONEY WILL DIRECTLY BENEFIT STUDENTS AND TEACHERS. YOUR KINDNESS IS APPRECIATED.

DAVE THEUNIS
SUPERINTENDENT
STEVENSVILLE SCHOOLS

Dear Greater Ravalli Foundation,
Thank you so much for your continuous support of teachers. It is such a gift to be able to have that extra money for our classrooms. We appreciate all you do for our school and community!

-Seeley Mickelson

Dear Kind Person
Thank you for the new snow boots I think they will be big enough for next year to, they are really soft and warm. I just want you to know that I am very grateful that you give back to kids in need and you give them new and things that they might get to use in the future years.

Sincerely,
Lagan



I am thank you for The Coat and gloves
Laci Walker
Walker



Alex Walker

Thank you for the coat and gloves



10/11/23
Deb,
Hello there! WE wanted to take a moment to say thank you to you and the Foundation for the recent gifts for students here at the Lone Rock School! WE sure appreciate the partnership! Our students are the next generation and you all are helping that come to be!
Thank you so much!
-Robert Dorell

Dear, Stock Farm

I am so honored and grateful to have been selected as a recipient of the Stock Farm Greater Ravalli Foundation for the Bitterroot college! I want to thank you guys from the bottom of my heart for this scholarship. It is great help to me financially, especially at this point in my life. I know that college will be hard and difficult at times, but I am very motivated and determined on becoming an ultrasound technician and this scholarship has helped motivate me in so many more ways. Words can't describe how grateful I am to be receiving this scholarship. Thank you so much for your vote of confidence in me!

Sincerely,
Mallena Hawkins





Twenty-Five Years



Steve Buck
Club General Manager

2024 marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Stock Farm. The genesis of the Club was to create a place where people could enjoy the game of golf and other western activities under the beauty of the Big Sky. Chuck Schwab's vision also included the idea that the Stock Farm would become part of the Bitterroot Community.

The Stock Farm quickly realized that there was a need for community support and the Greater Ravalli Foundation was formed. Over the last 22 years the now Stock Farm Greater Ravalli Foundation, in sync with the Stock Farm, has provided a broad range of support both in monetary and moral efforts. This mission will continue for many years to come.

My personal experience with the Stock Farm Greater Ravalli Foundation began during a luncheon with Chuck Schwab five years ago. Prior to my arrival to Hamilton Montana, Chuck in his gentlemanly way made it clear that it was of great importance for me to become involved with the community and to contribute to the best of my ability. Serving on the Board of Directors for the Stock Farm Greater Ravalli Foundation has provided me with that opportunity.

I encourage all members of the Stock Farm to support the Stock Farm Greater Ravalli Foundation in any way possible as the community supports the Club in so many different ways. Education is the foundation for our children and their families, your support is greatly appreciated for the next twenty-five years.

JULY 20, 2024 IS OUR 24-HOUR ONLINE GIVING EVENT IN CELEBRATION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE STOCK FARM CLUB. WATCH YOUR EMAIL FOR DETAILS.

2021 Recipient

“THANK YOU FOR GIVING ME A CHANCE.”

Josie Miller

It's been a year and it's time for another letter. I have just finished my junior year in college, which feels impossible to think about. In that year, I've managed to do some incredible things that I never imagined were possible.

First, I got published in *The Oval*— the University of Montana's undergraduate literary magazine. One of my short stories, “Peter Rabbit's Pastries,” made it into the physical book. One of my poems, “The Mountain in Me,” was published online on their blog as an honorary mention. I still can't believe that this happened. I had gotten one other poem, “Election Day,” published online my sophomore year. For an English major (and specifically a creative writing major), getting published in *The Oval* has been one of my dreams for the longest time. It's not necessarily the epitome of my career, but it's definitely one of the highlights.

Next, I got into the Peer Educator program. At UM, Peer Educators help teach and mentor during the freshman seminar class (you can think of it as a “here's how you do college and not drop out” kind of class). I applied because I learned that I'm interested in going to grad school and possibly being a TA in the future. I can't wait for next semester and the opportunities I'll have to directly mentor students and prepare for a TA position.

Lastly, I have a long list of goals for this summer. The huge thing I'll be focusing on is finishing and publishing my third novel, *Stigma*. It's been on the to-do list for far too long, and I hope to be able to include



it in my grad portfolio. I am also aiming to get one more short story published (though I do have to write it first) and ultimately, I'd love to get into the creative writing master's program here at UM. We'll see how that one goes.

All in all, it's been a crazy year and a crazy semester. I wasn't entirely sure I was going to make it through, but I'm grateful that I did. Because of the funding I received from you (and that UM matches), I've been able to grow as a writer in ways that I never could've conceived as a high school senior. My confidence in myself and my abilities has risen dramatically, and I'm no longer afraid to be true to myself or my ambitions. Everyone I talk to says that there's no career in writing anymore and that I'll be replaced by AI. Perhaps it's just blind optimism, but my experience at UM has taught me that I am irreplaceable.

When I first got this scholarship, I wasn't even entirely sure that I wanted to go to college. Now, three years and many Redbulls in, I'm so grateful that I did. There's nothing quite like college and it has pushed me to be better in ways that other programs couldn't. I hope that when we meet again (even if it is just through a letter) next year, I'll be able to come back with even more positive developments. In the meantime, I'd like to express my gratitude.

Thank you for giving me a chance. I promise I won't waste it.

Best,
Josie Miller

Together Changing Lives Forever

The Stock Farm Greater Ravalli Foundation Scholarship Program is designed to help public school students who have a desire and commitment to further their education and training. Students who receive scholarships are relieved of the burden of the ever-increasing cost of higher education. This allows them the opportunity to focus on what is really important, fulfilling life-long career dreams and goals. Since 2002, The Foundation has awarded 444 scholarships to graduating high school seniors in Darby, Hamilton, Florence, Stevensville, Victor, and Corvallis worth over \$5 million with over 30% of the scholarships going to first-generation recipients. The Foundation also has matching partnerships with the University of Montana, Montana State University, Montana Technological University, University of Montana Western, Carroll College and Rocky Mountain College.

**SCHOLARSHIPS
AWARDED TO DATE**

Calculating 2004-2024 Total Scholarship Recipients

**\$5.1
MILLION**

**POST SECONDARY
GRADUATION RATE**

90%

PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TO THE STOCK FARM GREATER RAVALLI FOUNDATION THIS SEASON

The goal of The Foundation is to assist and unite Ravalli County, its students and their families to change the face of the Valley for generations to come from Florence to Victor, Stevensville, Hamilton, Corvallis and Darby. The Foundation would not exist without Stock Farm members who generously contribute 98% of its funding. Funding which provides support and growth for public education, 40+ scholarships every year to graduating high school seniors, sustenance programs for food and warm clothing, professional training for teachers, plus funding resources to better meet the mental health needs of Ravalli County youth. Make a difference this year to create a better future for Ravalli County with your contribution using any number of donation programs including donating during the Day of Giving event; charitable trusts; fill out a pledge card; or online at SFGRF.org.

6 WAYS TO DONATE

1. SFGRF 24-HOUR ONLINE GIVING EVENT JULY 20, 2024

Details of this giving opportunity will come via email from the Stock Farm Club.

2. CHECK

You can donate by either filling out the donation remittance envelope that is included with this newsletter or by downloading and printing a pledge card then mailing it to the address on the card – go to SFGRF.org, click on DONATE/download pledge card. For those older than 70-1/2 with a traditional or rollover IRA, a direct Qualified IRA Charitable Distribution can be arranged through your IRA custodian.

3. ONLINE VIA PAYPAL OR CREDIT CARD

If you wish to make a donation by credit card, you can do so – go to SFGRF.org, click on DONATE/donate through PayPal or credit card.

4. CHARITABLE REMAINDER ANNUITY TRUST

A trust from which you receive fixed income for a life or a term of years. Best for those older than 70 seeking to make a substantial gift and receive a higher income for a short period of time. Fund with cash or securities, typically \$100,000 or more.

Benefits:

- Fixed income • Income tax deduction
- No up-front capital gains tax on transfer of assets
- Significant gift to use in the future

5. CHARITABLE REMAINDER UNITRUST

A trust from which you receive variable income (based on the trust's value each year) for life or a term of years. Best for those older than 55 seeking to make a substantial gift. Funded with cash, securities or other assets, typically \$100,000 or more.

Benefits:

- Variable income • Income tax deduction
- No up-front capital gains tax on transfer of assets
- Allows additional gifts
- Significant gift to use in the future

6. DONATION OF APPRECIATED PUBLICLY TRADED SECURITIES

When held for longer than one year, this can be arranged through your investment brokerage firm holding the securities and the SFGRF. You receive the value of the securities donated as an itemized deduction on your income tax return and you do not pay capital gains tax on the appreciation portion of the value of the publicly traded securities donated.

Thanks!

The information is not intended as legal or tax advice. For legal or tax advice, please consult your attorney or tax advisor. Figures cited in examples are for hypothetical purposes only and are subject to change. Reference to estate and income taxes apply to Federal taxes only. State income/estate taxes or state law may impact your results.

DREAM BIG "FORE" MONTANA YOUTH

We are so grateful for the partnership with Stock Farm Greater Ravalli Foundation which enables us to educate the community. We are a local 501(3)c nonprofit organization offering the First Tee School/Community program to bring life skills to our youth in the Bitterroot Valley. By seamlessly combining the game of golf with a life skills curriculum, we create active learning experiences promoting honesty, integrity, sportsmanship, confidence and responsibility.

Currently we have First Tee School Programs in Darby, Hamilton, Stevensville, and Florence reaching 2,000 kids in the elementary and middle school P.E. classes.

If you have any questions or wish to donate, our director, Scott Marsh, would be happy to visit with you at 406-490-4036.

2024 RECIPIENTS



Scholarship recipients attending the first night of the 2024 awards dinner, plus Scholarship Committee members and the Executive Board.

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