

## TWO \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS AVAILABLE

By Hal Slusher

During the annual SAPA Board of Directors meeting at the SAPA Conference, the Board approved offering two \$1,000 scholarship grants to SAPA members or dependents of SAPA members. Starting last year all money collected for scholarships will be placed in a separate designated fund and will only be used for that purpose. This will allow better control and easier accounting.

Scholarships are open to SAPA members, spouse of a SAPA member, as well as dependent children of the SAPA member up to the age of 24 years. SAPA membership must be current. Children of deceased SAPA members are also eligible. A spouse of a deceased SAPA member who has not remarried can also be deemed to be eligible. The educational facility must be a college or university or a vocational school where the training will lead to a license or certificate to practice a trade. Elementary, middle and high school students are not eligible as this is furnished by the state. However, high school seniors that have been accepted into higher education facilities are eligible.

There is no application form but a packet must be submitted by the applicant. This must include (but is not limited to)

1. A letter of application for the grant. This should include: an introduction, why the grant is needed, educational goals, goals for the future, anything else that would be of interest to the scholarship committee. Also in this section should be the full name of the SAPA member sponsor to confirm eligibility.
2. A letter of acceptance to a school.
3. A listing of activities and achievements.
4. A recent transcript of grades.
5. A recent head and shoulders passport size photograph.

The packet should be sent to: Society of Army Physician Assistants, ATTN: Scholarship Committee, PO Box 07490, Fort Myers, FL 33919. The executive director will make copies and forward to all members of the committee who will review and make their decision. They will notify the executive director who will notify each applicant personally of the decision. Please note that the executive director has no part in this decision and cannot respond to any queries until the final decision is made. We would like to have the grants awarded prior to the start of the next school year so deadline for receipt of the packets will be 15 August 2011. Good luck to all.

Finally this program is possible only due to the generosity of everyone. Our big fundraiser is at the SAPA Conference. Karen Reedy along with Gina and Louise ran a Casino Night. Irv Fish made many donations for the auction and made an excellent auctioneer. Laura Hume donated a quilt to be auctioned. Steve and Rita Ward, Lori Wysong, Bob Egbert and Tom Matherly worked very hard at the sales booth. By the way all transactions at the sales booth are part of the scholarship fund. Very important are individual donations. A final accounting of total assets is still being worked on. We would like to get at least \$100,000 so that it would be self supporting. A very big thank you and sincere appreciation is extended to all the above who have worked so hard and donated their time and money. I apologize if anyone was inadvertently left out. SAPA is a non-profit organization so all donations should be tax deductible. Check with your accountant to be sure. Donations may be sent to the SAPA address, ATTN: Scholarship Fund. Donors will be recognized in the SAPA Journal.