

Lauren A. Appenzeller of Ft. Wainwright, Arkansas, received the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division Scholarship Foundation's **James and Joan Strawn Award in Honor of the 10th Combat Engineer Battalion**. Her sponsor was her father, Col. George N. Appenzeller, who served as division surgeon during OIF (2006-2008). Lauren is attending the Savannah College of Art and Design where she is studying the intricacies of the videogame industry. Lauren's essay, entitled "Soldiers and Their Families," deals with the roles of families that support our service men and women when they are called to duty in foreign lands. She talks about the pressures on both the Soldiers and the families, and she mentions something most of us don't think about often. There are families with no extended family living close to them; these families are really "on their own" to face every obstacle life presents. The deployed Soldiers face not only the immediate challenges so far from home but also the loneliness and the concerns they have for those family members they had to leave behind. The feelings of separation for the families and the Soldiers are overwhelming at times; yet, they cope. There is tension when the Soldier deploys and when he/she returns; relationships have to be adjusted and reestablished. Together, they struggle to achieve normalcy. "Families are very essential to the protection of our country, and they too suffer a sacrifice. Some might view the families and the Soldiers as the epitome of patriotism; however, it is not pride that creates our great Army, but love of country, family, and friends that keep us safe and secure."

Photo: A. Buchwald

Andrew Buchwald of Yorktown, Virginia, received the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division Scholarship Foundation's **Adam Kradyna Award in Honor and Memory of James Kradyna**. His sponsor was his father, James E. Buchwald (LTC Army Ret.), who served with the 3rd Infantry Division, 30th Infantry Regiment (1987-89). Andrew is a student at Virginia Polytechnic Institute where he is studying nuclear engineering. His essay, "Loyalty: A Misunderstood Quality among Nations," is an extended definition of "loyalty." Andrew does not feel that loyalty to our country is limited to serving in the military. In fact, most people don't realize their own loyalty to the nation. He feels that being a law-abiding citizen contributes to our loyalty. This enables everyone to focus, not on the criminal elements within our society, but on ways to make life better for the public as a whole. Andrew discusses the flaws in our voting system: many do not vote; some vote based on how a candidate looks or on an attractive personality, or how well he/she can deliver a speech—not on the candidate's credentials and previous voting record. In short, we weaken our country when we do not take voting seriously enough to investigate all of the candidates and make informed choices on election day. In spite of our shortcomings, we do pull together when a crisis occurs, like the attack on Pearl Harbor which prompted nearly every American to do something to help.

Photo C. Buchwald

Christine Buchwald of Yorktown, Virginia, received the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division Scholarship Foundation's **3rd Squadron, 1st Cavalry Award in Memory of Staff Sergeant Jerome C. Owens**. Her sponsor was her father, James E. Buchwald (LTC Army Ret.), who served with the 30th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division (1987-89). Christine is attending James Madison University where she is pursuing a degree in nursing. Her essay, entitled "Patriotism," deals with some of the deficiencies she observes in our current population. Christine, who was raised in a

military background, was disappointed to note that not all Americans possess a high degree of patriotism. In short, she thinks there is room for improvement and credits the deficiencies she observed to current politics. Some seem to associate politics with patriotism and become indifferent to both while others are so passionate about politics that they become focused on issues rather than on our country and what she needs from each of us. She feels that a stronger sense of community would lead to more dedication to our country and what it stands for. A stronger sense of patriotism is needed for our younger generation to make a meaningful impact on our nation and on the world.

Photo: Kacie Lundy

Kacie Lundy of El Paso, Texas, received the received the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division Scholarship Foundation's **Award in Honor and Memory of SFC Ralph E. "Rick" Richenbacher**. Her sponsor was her father, Col. Michael D. Lundy, who served with the 3rd Infantry Division, 1988-91 and during OIF, 2009-2010. Kacie is attending the University of Richmond where she is pursuing a double major in leadership and international studies—world politics and diplomacy. Her essay, "Patriotism: A Way of Life," begins with a quotation by Abraham Lincoln: "I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives. I like to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him." Kacie acknowledges that her formative years in an Army family have formed her view of patriotism, or at least what patriotism should be. She sees patriotism in the red, white, and blue colors used everywhere—the red of pizza boxes, the white gloves worn by Soldiers guarding the *Tomb of the Unknowns*, the blue cups of a Fourth of July celebration. These remind her that the colors of our flag are not a static representation of our national heritage but are uniquely personal to all Americans. These subtle reminders help to keep families of deployed Soldiers strong. "[Patriotism] is ultimately a way of life that we all carry within our hearts, a small fire that we keep burning until the time comes for our loved ones to finish missions and finally come home."

[Kacie sent a "Thank you" note to the Foundation:] *"I'd like to thank you all so much for the \$1,000 scholarship awarded in memory of SFC Ralph E. Rickenbacher. The generosity of this award and its significance are extremely important to me, and I appreciate the assistance in furthering my education at the school of my dreams. This year promises to be challenging, but the peace of mind that comes with being awarded a scholarship like this one is priceless. Thank you!"*

Photo: Jennifer Nussio

Jennifer Nussio of Woodbridge, Virginia, received the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division Scholarship Foundation's **Legacy Award in Honor of Major General Maurice W. Kendall**. Her sponsor was her father, Colonel Ricky J. Nussio, who served with the 3rd Infantry Division during OIF, 2001-2004. Jennifer is pursuing a degree in English literature at Christendom College with the intention of becoming a writer. Her essay entitled "A Rock of the Marne" focuses on MOH recipient Sgt. James P. Connor. On August 15, 1944, Connor began the day as an ordinary Soldier with his 7th Infantry Regiment platoon. As the day progressed the officers above him were all killed or severely wounded leaving Connor in charge of the platoon. At this point, Connor had already received two wounds; however, he pressed on in singular action to enable what was left of his platoon to be victorious. In the final action, the platoon is credited with killing seven of the enemy, capturing forty, and seizing three machine guns. "For Americans today, he represents the bravery and dedication of all US Army soldiers who

have risked their lives and so often given them for the sake of our great nation. In a special way, Sgt. James P. Connor also represents the creed of the 3rd Infantry Division, for he not only lived the virtues of the ‘Marne Division,’ but [also] gave his life for them.”

Photo: Ina Robinson

Ina Robinson, of Martinsville, West Virginia, received the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division Scholarship Foundation’s **Jocelyne Papelard Award for Excellence**. Her sponsor was her father, WWII Veteran Kenneth W. Robinson, who served with the 7th Infantry Regiment from the beginning at Fedalla, Morocco, until completion of the Sicilian campaign. Ina is a graduate student at West Virginia University where she is studying “Higher Educational Leadership.” She holds undergraduate degrees from West Virginia Northern Community College in applied sciences and from Wheeling Jesuit University (Bachelor of Arts). Her essay, “The Survivor,” is chiefly about her father. She talks about the lasting effects war has on our young men but shows how their experiences make them stronger. She praises her father for the way he deals with his debilitating condition. While he was able to summon enough pride to walk into the hospital for treatment, he was soon unable to talk, walk, or feed himself. He battled his illnesses, complicated by pneumonia, and recovered sufficiently to go home for Christmas four months later. Ina said that her father’s reaction to and action in the battle with his illnesses proves to her that he has the heart and soul of the “Dog face Soldier.” Ina feels that her dad approached his recent problems just as he did his duties so long ago. He is a proud 3rd I.D. survivor—even today.

Photo: Morrow Toomey

Morrow L. Toomey, of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, received the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division Scholarship Foundation’s **Legacy Award in Honor and Memory of Thomas W. Mason**. Her sponsor was her father, Denis W. Toomey, whose late father, William J. Toomey, served with the 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Reconnaissance Troop, 3rd Signal Company (1944-46). Morrow is attending Whitman College where she is majoring in chemistry with a minor in Spanish. Her essay, entitled “Hope, Faith, and Pride,” is an extended definition of these words, which she relates to our country and our military history. Additionally, she shows what these concepts mean to us. Morrow feels that, in these difficult times, we, the American people, continue to show strength, will, and conviction. We stand powerful among each other, comprising a country with a vision for our brighter future—We have hope, faith, and pride in ourselves and in our nation. [Morrow wrote a “Thank you” note to the Foundation]: *Thank you and all of the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division Scholarship Foundation directors for the Legacy Award in Honor and Memory of Thomas W. Mason. It is a great honor receiving this award. As I grew up, my father, Denis Toomey, shared so much about my grandfather, William Toomey, and about the Infantry and the “Dogface Soldier’s” history. This came alive for me at the dedication of the WWII Memorial in Washington DC. There is a lot of pride surrounding the 3rd Infantry Division in our family and I am sure in many other families as well. . . . I promise to continue to uphold those values mentioned in my application essay by having pride, hope, and faith in my country, its people, and most importantly in myself.*

Photo: Mark Walton

Mark N. Walton of Kingwood, Texas, received the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division Scholarship Foundation's **Terrence A. Smith Award in Memory of Colonel William W. Wood**. His sponsor was his paternal grandfather, Albert W. Walton, who served with the 3rd Infantry Division, briefly, in November/December 1950. Walton's service with the 3rd was cut short when he was wounded at Chosin Reservoir. Mark is attending Texas A&M, Blinn College, where he is studying mechanical engineering. Mark's essay begins, "Every morning at the crack of dawn, the United States alarm clock rings with the sound of freedom and every night families mourn the losses of the ones who made that possible." Mark then recognizes the 13 major wars in which our American Soldiers fought and marvels that, at the age of 18, he can sit in the comfort of his home typing his essay and looking forward to college when he knows many who have gone before him were fighting and dying for our freedom while in their late teens. Mark feels that "In order for freedom ...to prevail, American citizens must be willing to put forth the same effort that the soldiers who have fought for us for many years displayed. America needs to understand, and be truly grateful for the country they are privileged enough to live in and pay respect to those who paid the ultimate price for our freedom." [Mark sent a "Thank you" letter to the Foundation] *"Thank you so much for the honor of receiving the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division Scholarship. I so appreciate the time and effort you put into selecting me for this award in memory of Colonel William W. Wood and his service to our country. I will do my best to honor his name with great academic achievements. You have made my dreams of college possible. May God Bless you."*

Photo: Ethan Vail

Ethan Vail of Michigan City, Indiana, received the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division Scholarship Foundation's **Award in Honor and Memory of the 3rd Infantry Division Soldiers, past and present**. His sponsor was his maternal grandfather, William H. Harris, who served with the 3rd Infantry Division Military Police in Korea, 1954. Ethan is seeking a degree in theatre from Purdue University. His essay, entitled "Freedom," discusses the various meaning of freedom and identifies its basic thread as a "binding force that is the basis of the founding of our country." Ethan remembers the Continental Congress of 1776 and the Civil War and notes that the freedoms sought in those formative years of our country are being taken for granted today. The simple freedoms college students have in choosing their courses of study is marveled at by foreign students who have no such freedoms in their mother countries. Ethan is excited about the many freedoms we have in America, and he notes that it is our Soldiers who make our freedoms possible. He marvels at the rush of excitement when a soldier or sailor gets off a airplane and the people on the entire concourse stops to applaud that hero and thank him for protecting our freedoms. "Freedom is a simple word . . .that I will never take for granted. It is something that everyone in this country should be thankful for. . ." "We should appreciate every soldier who protects our freedom."