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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE...

WAHF ANNOUNCES ITS 2012 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Three students to receive \$2000 in funds

OSHKOSH, WI. September 20, 2012 - The Wisconsin Aviation Hall of Fame (WAHF) is proud to announce its 2012 scholarship recipients. Three students, Kenneth Hawley, Adam Basso, and Ty Lasch, each enrolled in the Aviation Maintenance Technician program at Blackhawk Technical College in Janesville, Wisconsin, will be honored in a presentation on October 27 in Oshkosh.

Kenneth Hawley, of Orfordville, Wisconsin, is WAHF's Carl Guell Memorial Scholarship recipient, a \$1000 award that recognizes students who meet strict academic standards and participate in extracurricular and community activities. Ken spent 20 years as a submariner in the United States Navy, having retired recently and now fulfilling his goal to earn a Airframe and Powerplant certificate and become a pilot. He has served as vice-president of the aviation club at Blackhawk and was honored with several Navy awards in recognition of exemplary service. "Ken's attitude toward the aviation field is exceptional," said Richard Theis, an instructor at Blackhawk. "His workmanship shows his pride in completing a task correctly and efficiently."

Adam Basso will receive a \$500 award from the Jerome Thiessen Financial Assistance Fund. The Elkhorn, Wisconsin, resident served in the United States Marine Corps for nine years as a CH-53 crew chief/mechanic. "I am so grateful for being considered for the Jerome Thiessen Scholarship," said Adam. "I am thankful for the fact that those who came before me are making it easier for others to get into civilian aviation and the business of fixing and flying aircraft." Adam is pursuing his Airframe and Powerplant certification to return to a career in helicopter maintenance. After returning to Wisconsin, Adam and his wife began participating in activities at their local church. He has been the recipient of numerous Marine Corps awards, and Naval and Marine Corps Achievement Medals for saving the lives of fellow aircrew members. "Adam's military background has brought a deeper thought process to class," said Richard Theis. "As he works with his peers that knowledge helps to motivate others. Adam is always looking at the safety factors associated with aviation."

Ty Lasch, Lake Geneva, was selected as the Jerome Ripp Memorial Scholarship recipient. While Ty is enrolled in the Aviation Maintenance Technician program, he is also becoming educated in piloting, avionics, and nondestructive testing methods. "This scholarship is a symbol of your trust in me that I will help keep the tradition and future of aviation going," said Ty. "This scholarship encourages me as I strive to do my best. It reinforces my goal of becoming an aviation mechanic, and the future that I want." Ty has volunteered in many community projects and received the State Agricultural Proficiency Award in turf grass management. Instructor Richard Theis commented, "Ty's attitude toward learning new and diverse tasks is well above the norm. He should have no problem succeeding."

Kenneth, Adam, and Ty will receive recognition at WAHF's 2012 Induction Ceremony and Banquet on October 27 at the EAA AirVenture Museum in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. More details about the ceremony, which is open to the public, can be found at www.wisconsinaviationhalloffamewisconsin.org.

The Wisconsin Aviation Hall of Fame has inducted more than 100 men and women since it organized in 1985. Its mission is to collect and preserve the history of aviation in Wisconsin, recognize those who made that history, inform others of it, and promote aviation education for future generations.

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