



2008

Scholarship Recipients

**I.I.E.A. distributes \$15,100 in
scholarships to deserving students**

The Idaho Irrigation Equipment Association has awarded \$15,100 in scholarships to 22 students for the 2008-2009 school year. These students were selected on the basis of academic accomplishments, leadership, and interest in pursuing a degree in an agricultural or horticulture-landscape-related field.

“The IIEA implemented the scholarship program in 1980 with a \$500 scholarship to promote education in the industry. Now thousands of dollars are awarded annually to outstanding young men and women,” said Trace Bedke, IIEA Scholarship Chair.

The I.I.E.A. was established in 1971 and membership consists of more than 100 separate entities including wholesale suppliers, retail dealers, equipment manufacturers, public utilities and financial institutions engaged in serving Idaho’s agricultural needs.

The deadline for the 2009 Scholarship Program is Feb. 15, 2009.



Karmella Dolecheck

Twin Falls, ID

Karmella Dolecheck is a 2008 graduating valedictorian of Twin Falls High School. Throughout high school Karmella was a member of National Honors Society, orchestra, soccer, FFA, 4-H and Girl Scouts. Karmella has lettered four-years and was named to the 2nd team all conference in soccer while also being the team captain. She has received many other awards and held numerous leadership positions throughout her high school career. She will be attending Utah State University next fall where she plans to major in Animal Science.

Karmella Dolecheck

\$250 Snake River Sales
\$100 Irritrol
\$250 IIEA

\$600 IIEA Scholarship

Parents: Thomas and Suzann Dolecheck
College: Utah State University
Sponsor: John Deere Landscapes

Jaysa Crist Fillmore

Twin Falls, ID

Jaysa was the 2006 Valedictorian of Kimberly High School and is attending the University of Idaho. She is majoring in Agricultural Education and will pursue a career as a high school agriculture teacher and FFA advisor. While in high school, Jaysa was very involved in the National FFA Organization. She held offices at the chapter and district levels and earned her State FFA Degree her senior year. At the University of Idaho, Jaysa continues that involvement as an officer and active member of the U of I Collegiate FFA Chapter. Jaysa was recently chosen as the nominee from the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education for the College of Agriculture Outstanding Sophomore Student Award.



Jaysa Crist Fillmore

Parents: David and Melanie Crist
Spouse: Richard
College: University of Idaho
Sponsor: Premier Insurance

\$500 Nelson Irrigation Corp.
\$500 Fresno Valves & Castings

\$1,000 IIEA Scholarship

Lance Gillette

Rupert, ID



Lance Gillette

Lance Gillette is currently a student at the College of Southern Idaho, where he is studying Agricultural Science and is close to achieving his Associate Degree and then receives his bachelor through the University of Idaho. While attending school he works on the family farm helping to manage the crops and do all assortments of jobs. He just recently got married to Kayla Poulton from the Burley area. They both work together on the farm. Lance has been raised on a farm all his life and enjoys the family lifestyle and the everyday challenge of it. He hopes to pursue a career in Agriculture someday.

\$500 Valmont Industries

\$500 IIEA Scholarship

Parents: Larry & Cindy Gillette

Spouse: Kayla

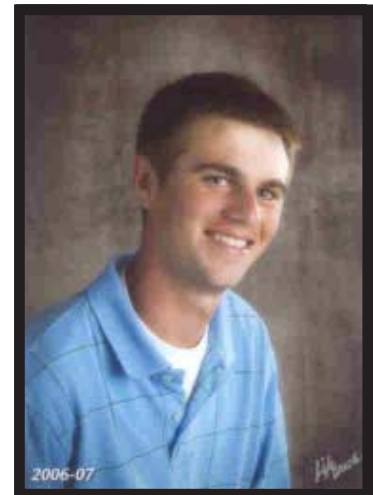
College: College of Southern Idaho

Sponsor: The Sprinkler Shop

Jace Greiner

Parma, ID

Jace Greiner is a 2008 graduate of Parma High School. He plans on going to Walla Walla Community College in Washington this fall and majoring in Irrigation/Water Management. He plans on completing his bachelor's degree in Agriculture Business after that. He has participated in 4-H/FFA for ten years raising swine, dairy heifers and beef. He has started his own herd of Herefords and his own business selling natural hormone-free custom beef. Jace has enjoyed playing four years of football and basketball and two years of baseball in high school.



Jace Greiner

Parents: Mike & Tammy Greiner

College: Walla Walla Community College

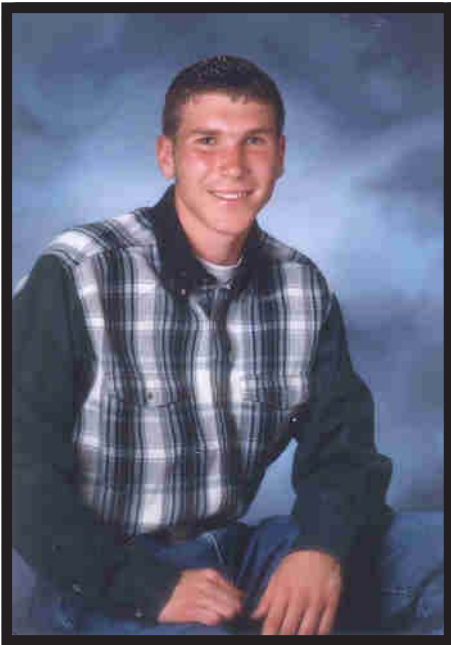
Sponsor: Valley Irrigation Service & Supply

\$300 Spears Mfg

\$130 IIEA

\$ 70 Valley Irrigation Service & Supply

\$500 IIEA Scholarship



Adam Hales

Adam Hales

Blackfoot, ID

Adam Hales is a 2001 graduate of Snake River High School. He is currently a junior at Brigham Young University - Idaho, where he is majoring in Agricultural Business. He plans to obtain a bachelors degree from BYU-Idaho and continue farming with his family in Blackfoot. He would like to become a successful farmer and continue operating the family farm.

Parents: Don and Ranel Hales

College: BYU-Idaho

Sponsor: Valley Equipment & Irrigation

\$350 Clemons Sales Corp.

\$350 IIEA

\$700 IIEA Scholarship

Jessica Johnson

Malta, ID

\$250 The Sprinkler Shop

\$250 Rain Bird Agri-Products Division

\$500.00 IIEA Scholarship

Parents: Jeffrey & Jeannette Johnson

College: BYU-Idaho



Jessica Johnson

Jessica Johnson is a 2008 graduate from Raft River High School. She was the class valedictorian. She has participated in sports, performing arts, leadership activities, and agriculture throughout her high school career. She was a member of the cheer squad and dance team. She participated in the school choir, three musicals, and speech and drama competitions. She was Key Club President her freshman year of high school. Jessica has also participated in the PEAK program as a mentor and the Girls State program. She has been in the FFA program all through her high school experience. Her sophomore year, she was the Chapter Reporter. Her junior year, she was elected Chapter Vice President. Her senior year, she was elected Chapter President and District Secretary. Jessica has received her Greenhand, Chapter, and State Degrees. Her SAE project was managing the school's greenhouse. Jessica is going to attend Brigham Young University - Idaho in the summer and fall to continue her education in agriculture. She will be majoring in Agribusiness and Plant Science. She plans on being involved in agriculture the rest of her life whether it is managing an office or running her own greenhouse.

Leah Meeks

Jerome, ID



Leah Meeks

\$500 Interstate Plastics

\$500 Lake Company

\$200 IIEA

\$1,200 IIEA Scholarship

Parents: Sharon Meeks and Jim Meeks

College: University of Florida

Sponsor: Farmore of Idaho

Leah Meeks is a June 2008 graduate from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo's BioResource and Agricultural Engineering Department with an irrigation emphasis. Meeks was recently recognized as the Outstanding Senior for Service to the Community in the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences one of five Outstanding Women in Engineering at Cal Poly. Meeks currently serves as the president of Cal Poly's Ag Ambassadors which received the College of Ag Club of the Year and received the Excellence in Service Award at the National Ag Ambassador Conference. While at Cal Poly, Meeks has been involved in Agriculture Ambassadors, Agricultural Engineering Society, Society of Women Engineers, and many aspects of The Cal Poly Community CENTER. This fall, Meeks will attend the University of Florida as an Agricultural and Biological Engineering master degree student with a graduate assistanceship working with irrigation systems in agriculture. Meeks plans on getting her doctorate degree in Agricultural Engineering and teaching at the university level.

Jenna Meeks

Jerome, ID



Jenna Meeks

Jenna Meeks is currently a junior at Colorado State University with a double major in Agricultural Economics and Soil and Crop Science. She is actively involved in a variety of organizations including: Agricultural Ambassadors, Associated Students of Colorado State University, College of Agricultural Sciences Council, Sigma Alpha, and Agribusiness Association. She has represented CSU at the Agriculture Future of America Conference in Kansas City, Missouri, the National Agricultural Ambassadors Conference at North Carolina State University and the World Association of Agriculture Councils hosted by Purdue University. Jenna has been accepted for the FFA New Century Farmer program and will be traveling to Australia with the Department of Animal Sciences this summer. After graduation Jenna plans to work in agriculture and pursue a master's degree. Completing her formal education, she will travel and work abroad and in a variety of places within the U.S., eventually returning home to farm and ranch with her older sister, Leah Meeks. Jenna is a 2006 graduate of Twin Falls High School.

\$400 Hastings Irrigation

\$300 JM Eagle

\$700 IIEA Scholarship

Parents: Sharon Meeks &
Jim Meeks

College: Colorado State Univ.

Sponsor: Farmore of Idaho



Matt Nelsen

Matt Nelsen

Jerome, ID

Matt Nelsen is a 2008 graduate of Jerome High School. Matt has been very active in student government and served as Student Body President for the 2007-2008 school year. He served as a Peer Mediator for Jerome High School. He participated in soccer, track and FFA during his high school years. Matt attended the Rotary Youth Leadership camp and Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY) workshop. Matt has logged over 700 hours of volunteer service to the community. He was a camp counselor for several years at the University of Idaho's Natural Resources Workshop for middle school students. During the 2007-2008 school year, he received the Jerome Optimist Club's Outstanding Youth Award, the President's Award for Community Service, and was a runner-up for the Daughters of the American Revolution's Outstanding Student award. Matt's career goal is to earn an Ag Education degree so that he can share his love of agriculture with high school students somewhere in Idaho. He is also hopeful he can spend his summers farming on the family farm and fire fighting for BLM.

- \$150 Freedom Plastics
- \$100 Layne Pumps
- \$250 IIEA

- \$500 IIEA Scholarship**

Parents: Jack & Emily Nelsen

College: University of Idaho

Scott Orthel

Filer, ID



Scott Orthel

Parents: Gerald and Judy Orthel

College: University of Idaho

Sponsor: Howard Neibling, University of Idaho

- \$300 B.A. Fischer Sales Co. Inc.
- \$100 Kermit & Candy Cochran
- \$100 Ag Sales

- \$500 IIEA Scholarship**

Scott Orthel is a 2005 graduate of Filer High School and grew up on a combined livestock and row crop farm. Currently a junior at the University of Idaho, Scott is majoring in Soil and Land Resources with a minor in Range Ecology Management and will graduate the spring of 2009. He plans on moving back to the Magic Valley and working in a water/agricultural related field. During free time he enjoys the outdoors with hobbies like hunting and fishing, as well as participating in various intramural sports throughout the school year. He makes it to all home football games as well as other athletic events during the year. A member of Kappa Sigma fraternity, Scott participates in community service/philanthropies activities including blood drives, cleaning highway right-of-ways, and canned food drives.



Valerie Pantone

Valerie Pantone

Shoshone, ID

Valerie Pantone, of Shoshone High School, graduated in May 2008 as her class Salutatorian. From growing up on a ranch to recently retiring from a State FFA Office, Valerie has always been involved with agriculture. This fall, she will attend the University of Idaho and major in Agricultural Engineering, which she will use to give back to the agricultural community. Until then, Valerie will work on the ranch and as a waitress, in addition to working with an FFA steer for her local fair. Valerie will also continue helping her school and community as an officer in her student body, Business Professionals of America chapter, and FFA chapter and participating in Journalism and various National Honor Society service projects. Valerie also wishes to thank the many companies and organizations that support the youth in Idaho.

\$250 Senninger Irrigation
\$300 Mitchell Lewis & Staver
\$150 IIEA

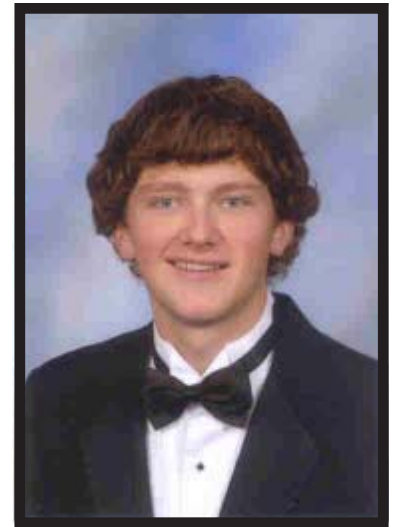
\$700 IIEA Scholarship

Parents: Pamela & Tony Pantone
College: University of Idaho
Sponsor: Farmore of Idaho

Stephen Parrott

Buhl, ID

Stephen Parrott is a 2008 graduate of Filer High School where he was active in various clubs, sports and community service. Stephen served as Student Body President and was active in Student Council. He was a member of the National Honor Society and was an American Legion Boys State Delegate where he served as a State Senator. Stephen has been very involved in FFA competing and serving as an officer. He will serve as the 2008-2009 State FFA Vice President. Stephen plans to attend the University of Idaho. Stephen loves to ride and race motorcycles, play golf, ride his snowmobile, wakeboard and generally enjoy the outdoors. He appreciates growing up in a rural area enjoying his family's agricultural roots. He is thankful for the great support of his community and businesses like AIS Irrigation.



Stephen Parrott

\$200 Gheen Irrigation Works
\$100 Irrigation Accessories Co.
\$200 IIEA

\$600 IIEA Scholarship

Parents: Dan & Cally Parrott
College: University of Idaho
Sponsor: AIS, Inc.



Kaden Piva

Parents: John & Kathy Piva

College: University of Great Falls

Sponsor: Idaho Power Co.

Kaden Piva

Challis, ID

Kaden Piva is a 2008 graduate of Challis High School. He was the 2007-2008 Student Body President and member of the Honor Society, graduating with a 3.85 GPA. He was also involved in wrestling, football, track and field, FFA, Envirothon, Natural Helpers, and P.E.A.K (Peers Encouraging Abstinent Kids). He held officer positions or was a team captain in most of these activities. He enjoys helping coach the Little Guy Wrestlers and is a 3x State Champion in wrestling. Kaden is enrolled at the University of Great Falls where he will begin school in the fall of 2008. He plans to pursue a business degree and wrestle on the college team.

\$200 Western Supply

\$250 Universal Irrigation Sales

\$200 Inman Interwest Inc.

\$350 IIEA

\$1,000 IIEA Scholarship

Whitney Plant

Blackfoot, ID

Whitney Plant is a 2006 graduate of Snake River High School in Blackfoot, Idaho. She is currently a sophomore at the University of Idaho with a double major in agricultural education (teaching option) and agribusiness with an accounting minor. Whitney is active in the Collegiate FFA, Student Idaho Cattlemen's Association, and the Agribusiness Club. She is currently a College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Ambassador. She is on the Dean's List for 2006-2008. Her future goals include working in the agricultural industry.

Parents: Richard Plant & Terese Gibson

College: University of Idaho

Sponsor: Double M Ag & Irrigation



Whitney Plant

\$600 Matco-Norca, Inc.

\$200 IIEA

\$800 IIEA Scholarship



Matt Richardson

Matt Richardson

Yerington, Nevada

Matt Richardson is a 2006 graduate of Yerington High School. He graduated fifth in his class and was very active in sports. He was the starting Quarterback and starting Linebacker for all four years of his high school career. He also started as Middle Linebacker in the Seretuma All-Star Classic Football game where he lead his all-start team in tackles. Matt is attending the University of Idaho and is majoring in Agriculture Systems Management and minoring in Agribusiness. He is also apart of the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity and is the current President of the fraternity. For Matt's career goals, he plans on returning to his hometown of Yerington, NV and taking over the hay and alfalfa ranch he has been working on for the past six years. The ranch consists of 3,000 acres of alfalfa and grain hay, all irrigated by flood and sprinklers. Matt is very excited about his future with the ranch, this has inspired Matt to graduate early with his degrees and begin working towards improvements and the dream of running a ranch.

\$250 Advanced Irrigation
\$400 Pentair Water Group
\$ 50 IIEA

\$700 IIEA Scholarship

Parents: Jim and Gina Richardson

College: University of Idaho

Kimbra Roche

Parma, ID

Kimbra Roche is a 2008 graduate of Parma High School. She graduated as valedictorian of her class in May. She has a caring heart, is dedicated to community service, and finds time to tutor classmates during school. She has a good sense of humor and always tries to make everyone smile. Among her numerous achievements, Kimbra was President of the Leo Club, President of the Senior Class, Vice-president of the Student Body, and FFA secretary. She participates in cheerleading, volleyball, and golf. She plans to attend Boise State University and major in Ag Science.



Kimbra Roche

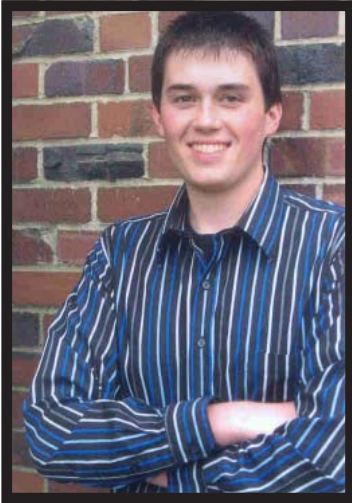
Parents: LaMar & Sherri Roche

College: Boise State University

Sponsor: Agri-Lines Irrigation

\$500 G&S Sales
\$100 Action Machining
\$200 IPS Weld-On

\$800 IIEA Scholarship



Joshua Schroeder

Joshua Schroeder

American Falls, ID

Joshua Schroeder is a 2006 graduate of Aberdeen High School. He gained an appreciation for agriculture through growing up on his family's farm, which he still returns to each summer. He is currently earning a degree in Agricultural Engineering at the University of Idaho and is also a member of the University of Idaho Honors Program and the Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society. In the spring of 2007, he was nominated by the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Freshman Outstanding Student Award. After completing his college education, Joshua plans to pursue a career in Agricultural Engineering.

Parents: Philip and Lura Schroeder

College: University of Idaho

Sponsor: Knudsen Irrigation

\$500 Travis Pattern & Foundry

\$100 IIEA

\$600 IIEA Scholarship

Shelli Simpson

Hagerman, ID

Shelli Simpson graduated as Valedictorian from Hagerman High School in 2006. Currently, she is working towards her bachelor's degree at Brigham Young University-Idaho. She is a junior majoring in Horticulture with an emphasis in Design/Build. With hard work and dedication, Shelli has been able to maintain a grade point average of 3.993 through her first two years of schooling at BYU-Idaho. This year Shelli was selected to be one of the 18 members of the Horticulture team to represent BYU-Idaho at PLANET (a Horticulture competition in Georgia). Her team brought home third place out of the 66 colleges that attended. Shelli plans on continuing her education and graduating from BYU-Idaho in 2010. After graduating, she wants to be able to design and install landscapes or irrigation systems that will not only beautify the earth but also help with water conservation. She wants a job where she can continue to learn, grow, and educate those around here.



Shelli Simpson

Parents: Ronnie & Sharlene Smith

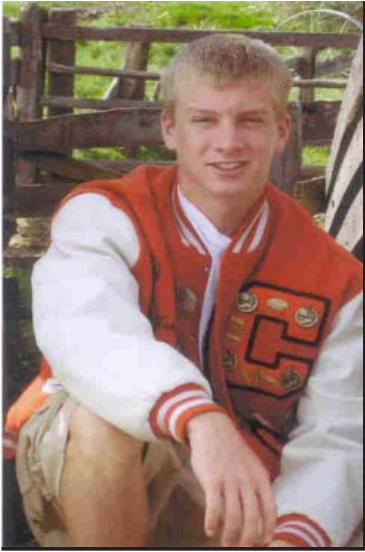
College: BYU-Idaho

Sponsor: Nebraska Irrigation West

\$200 Pipeco, Inc.

\$500 Rain Bird Turf Sales

\$700 IIEA Scholarship



Jake Turnbull

\$500 WISH NW Inc.

\$500 IIEA Scholarship

Jake Turnbull

Cambridge, ID

Jake graduated from Cambridge High School in 2007 where he was involved in FFA, student government and athletics. As a member of the Cambridge FFA chapter, he won awards at the district, state and national level. Jake is currently attending the University of Idaho majoring in Agricultural Engineering. He plans to be part of a new and innovative technology in the agriculture industry.

Parents: Ray and Vickie Turnbull

College: University of Idaho

Sponsor: Butte Irrigation

Mary Jo Usabel

Marsing, ID

Mary Jo is a 2006 graduate of Marsing High School. She played on the volleyball, basketball and track teams for four years. She was a member of the Wilson Butte 4-H club for 11 years and Marsing FFA for four years. Mary Jo served in leadership positions in school and has been active in the community. She is a sophomore at Northwest Nazarene University. She is on the track team and participates in women's pole-vault and 100 meter hurdles.



Mary Jo Usabel

\$500 Lindsay Corp.

\$300 Cornell Pump Co.

\$100 IIEA

\$900 IIEA Scholarship

Parents: Joe and Jody Usabel

College: Northwest Nazarene University

Sponsor: Agri-Lines Irrigation



McKenzezy Woodward

Rupert, ID

McKenzezy Woodward is a 2005 graduate of Minico High School. She grew up on the family farm north of Rupert. After graduation, she attended Utah State University where she majored in Agricultural Systems Technology. She is continuing her education at the College of Southern Idaho where she majors in Agribusiness. After earning her degree, McKenzey will continue to live in the Mini-Cassia area and work towards a career in Farm Management.

McKenzezy Woodward

\$500 Rain For Rent

\$200 Toro

\$700 IIEA Scholarship

Parents: Ross Newcomb, Dennis & Karen Hylton

College: College of Southern Idaho

Sponsor: Rain For Rent

Elizabeth Zimmerman

Walla Walla, Wash.

Elizabeth Zimmerman is a 2007 graduate of DeSales High School. She was co-salutatorian for her class and was President of DeSales Girls League. She was also a member of the 4-H Mill Creek Wranglers for eight years and was President of the club for three of the years. Elizabeth is currently attending Carroll College and is majoring in Business with concentrations in Management and International Business. She also plans to study abroad during her junior year. Her goal is to work in Agriculture and to work with buyers and sellers around the world.



Elizabeth Zimmerman

\$300 Butte Irrigation

\$200 IIEA

\$500 IIEA Scholarship

Parents: Don & Susan Zimmerman

College: Carroll College

Sponsor: Nelson Irrigation Corp.