THE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC
AN AFFILIATE OF THE GENEVA LAKE FOUNDATION
THOMAS E. REYNOLDS, FOUNDER, 1980

Newsletter – Fall 2026

The Give and Take of Geneva Lake

A message from the EEF President

If you are anything like me and my family, you take a lot from Geneva Lake.

We take walks along the lakeshore path. We take swims and boat rides. We take immense pleasure in gazing into the clear waters and at the sunrises and sunsets reflected in the mirror of the lake.

But we probably don't take enough time to think about what we need to give to keep this amazing resource the treasure and pleasure that it is.

In this newsletter we honor the legacy of our first EEF President, Thomas J. Cashman. He was someone who stepped up to give what was necessary to protect Geneva Lake.

This fall, EEF is working to continue that legacy of lake protection through funding summer student internships to support the critical research needed to find and address threats to the health of our lake, and by providing lake-focused education resources to local teachers, students and our community.

We invite you to join us in giving back to the lake that gives us all so much.

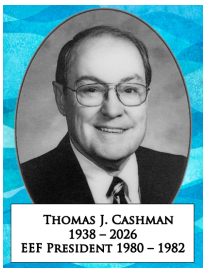
Many thanks and happy fall,

Dr. Carol Zimmermann
President
The Environmental Education Foundation, Inc.



Thomas J. Cashman Student Summer Internships

Support the Legacy



In 1980, Tom Reynolds and Tom Cashman became concerned about the future of Geneva Lake, so they…

- **invested and took action,**
- motivated people to **recognize threats to Geneva Lake,**
- founded EEF to educate **the next generation**, and
- Tom Cashman became the **first EEF president**.

With your support the Environmental Education Foundation Cashman Intern Program will

- put a **team of local high school and college students** out on the lake to collect and test water samples and investigate **sources of pollution**
- give hands-on experience to our student researchers!

Tom Cashman passed away this year, but your tax-deductible contribution will honor and continue his legacy. Please contribute by sending a check to the address below or going to our website: eefscholars.org/donate



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High School Leaders Identify Needed Resources for Educators

Each year we at EEF met with principals, teachers and counselors from our local high schools.

Our mission is to listen to what these educators need to do the important work of equipping the next generation to be lake area stewards. Listening to their ideas, we have expanded our programs from scholarships to local students to include grants for teachers and – last year for the first time – an in-service teacher workshop and support for professional development.



Principal Emily Soley-Johnson (Willams Bay), Jake White (WB), Pat Houlihan (Big Foot HS), Barb Obligato (EEF), and Chelsea Miller (Badger HS) share ideas.

High School Leader Teams

Many thanks to our local high school leaders for providing insights into ways we can support excellence in environmental education. Thank you to...

Badger High School
Andrea Kaplan, Principal
Aaron Burg, Science Dept Chair
AJ Curtis, Counselor
Chelsea Miller, Science Teacher

Big Foot High School
Jeremy Andersen, Principal
Sydney Bender, Science Teacher
Pat Hollihan, Environmental Club Advisor

Williams Bay School
Emily Soley-Johnson, Principal
Amanda Anderson, Science Teacher
Jake White, Engineering Club Advisor
Megan Williamson, Counselor

Businesses – Be a Lake Hero! Sponsor High School Teacher Workshop

Looking for a way to give back? EEF is seeking business sponsors for in-service, lake-focused workshops for our high school teachers.



Sponsorship Levels:
$1,500, $1,000 and $500

Recognition & Engagement:
Attend the workshop and meet participants,
join the group for lunch or closing remarks.

Be recognized in: workshop materials, post-event communications, EEF outreach - highlighting your support of education and freshwater stewardship.
Contact Marty Pankau, Fundraising Chair at eefscholars@gmail.com



Marty Pankau (EEF) & Workshop Co-Sponsor Jonathon Dugan (Bio-aquatic Services)

Meet Your EEF Scholarship Winners!

Thanks to the Geneva Lake Association (GLA) for celebrating the 2026 EEF Scholarship winners at their annual meeting.



EEF Board Directors celebrate scholars at the annual GLA Meeting

Name	*HS*	*Major*	*Career Goal*	*College*
Thomas E. Reynolds Endowment Scholarships				
Eloise Zabowski	Badger	Materials Science & Engineering	Nutrient Runoff	U of Delaware
Brilie Esser	Big Foot	Natural Resources	Water Quality	UW- Stevens Pt
Emma Olson	Badger	Horticulture	Sustainable Food Prod.	UW - River Falls
Henry Koerner	Big Foot	Agricultural Education	Educator	U of Minnesota
EEF High School Graduate Scholarships				
Alexa Hernandez	Badger	Environmental Science	Policy Development	UW- Madison
Rebecca Konkle	Big Foot	Plant Science	Agri-science Researcher	UW- Madison
Sayla Wilkens	Badger	Landscape Architecture	Eco-friendly Landscapes	Iowa State
EEF Undergraduate Scholarships				
Maire Lucero	Badger	Physics	Climate Change Research	UW- Madison
Gage Nicholson	Badger	Civil Engineering	Wastewater Treatment	UW- Platteville
Thomas J. Cashman Post-Graduate Scholarships				
Sam Ahler	Badger	Ecology & Evol Biology	Prairie Restoration	Ph.D. - U Colorado
Anna Wollaeger	Badger	Climate & Energy Policy	Sustainable Energy Policy	MS- U of Chicago

Apply now for an EEF Scholarship - up to $16,000

Deadline: March 1, 2027

Students from the Badger, Big Foot, and Williams Bay school districts, who are pursuing an environmentally-focused career, please apply!
Scholarships available for graduating HS seniors, students continuing as undergraduates, and those pursing advanced degrees.

Simple, short online application

Apply at: eefscholars.org/scholarships

or use the QR code

Salute to our Outdoor Education Partner – The Lake Geneva Garden Club

The generous grant award from the Lake Geneva Garden Club, coupled with your donations, means that EEF can provide outdoor education subsidies to all twelve of the area elementary schools.

These funds support hands-on outdoor learning experiences for young students, inspiring them to understand and care for the natural world.



EEF Teacher Grants

Fall awards announced Nov. 16
Spring applications due:

April 2, 2027

Grants up to $5,000 are available to teachers and researchers to engage students in environmental research.
Short, online application at eefscholars.org/grants

Please donate… to give back

Please join us!

Please support lake-focused education for our teachers, students and our community…
by donating at:
eefscholars.org
… or use the QR code

Welcome new EEF leaders!

Clare Mulcahy, Ryan Cardinal, Sarah Thompson, Dakota Mandli, Jessica Cramer, and Brendan Cashman

Foundation Board

Carol Zimmermann, President — J.D. Olson, Vice President — Carla Olson, Secretary/Treasurer

Ryan Cardinal	Lisa Konel	Clare Mulcahy	Ted Peters
Brigid Cashman	Jill Lorenzi	Barb Obligato	Sarah Thompson
Jenny Grunow	Dakota Mandli	Marty Pankau	Sarah Walton
Jenny Heaton			

Ad Hoc Directors
Holly Baseman, GLEA
Lynn Grayson, GLA

Terry Quinn, Honorary Director
Jim Reynolds, Founding Family Representative

Committee Members
Jessica Cramer, Marketing
Brendan Cashman, Finance

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