



Education and Training Programs ISEE members and others in the industry have established endowment funds for scholarships. Monies are awarded to qualified students who are pursuing technical undergraduate, graduate or doctorate degrees in fields of education related to the commercial explosives, mining or engineering industry.



Jerry McDowell (JMD) Memorial Scholarship Foundation



Jerry McDowell

In The Beginning

Jerry McDowell was the Vice President of Purchasing for Peabody Coal and the General Manager of Peabody's subsidiary company Midco Supply and Equipment (Midco). Midco was formed as a result of Jerry's negotiated agreement to purchase a large volume of blasting grade ammonium nitrate from Hercules Explosives company's plant in Louisiana Missouri. Since the agreed volume was significantly more than Peabody's consumption requirements, Midco was formed to sell and distribute the extra material thereby placing Peabody, and Jerry, in the retail explosives business for a number of years. Eventually Midco was sold to Dyno Nobel, partly leading to the strategic relationship that Dyno and Peabody Energy now share. Jerry passed away unexpectedly in 1991 and his friends from within Peabody and the explosives industry at large decided to honor Jerry's memory with a golf tournament at Jerry country club in St. Louis in 1992. At the conclusion of the first tournament, the residual funds were used to plant a tree in Jerry's honor at the country club.

In The Beginning (continued)

After the 1992 tournament, Jerry's best friend Tom Clark of Trojan Explosives and Jerry's close friend in Peabody's procurement department Larry Steward consulted with other of Jerry friends and decided to continue the practice of the annual golf tournament in Jerry's honor. **It was further decided that the profits from the tournaments would henceforth be used to pursue an idea that Jerry had discussed numerous times with his cadre of friends; a scholarship fund for mature students seeking support for degrees in mining related fields such as engineering or geology.**

Without any professional support, Tom Clark and Larry Steward (with administrative assistant from Peabody's Beverly Price) created the Jerry McDowell Memorial Scholarship Foundation and evolved the tournament over a period of 15 years into a well publicized and superbly run annual event which routinely attracted over 100 participants. While a sizeable base of equity was gradually built in the Foundation's bank account, some funds were disbursed each year through the vehicle of the International Society of Explosives Engineers (ISEE) Education Foundation.

In 2008, the Foundation improved its management controls significantly by filing for, and receiving, 501(c)(3) status, renewing its status as a non-profit foundation in the state of Missouri and electing a permanent executive staff: Tom Clark (President and Board Chairman), Jason Ryan (Treasurer) and Beverly Price (Secretary). The Foundation also elected five additional board members from outside of Peabody Energy, welcomed Jerry's son Todd as an advisor to assist in the election of Board members and also elected Larry Steward to the position of Emeritus Friend of the Foundation. [The Foundation continues to disburse its funds each year by using the ISEE as a host foundation who pools a large number of applications together and utilizes their four-person selection committee and rigorous evaluation controls to nominate recipients for the funds. The ISEE then distributes the funds directly to the recipients' schools in order to apply the funds directly to their tuitions.](#)

The Foundation and its annual event continues to thrive based on the generosity of both corporate and individual sponsors. The tournament at the Greenbriar Hills Country Club in Kirkwood, MO is regarded by many attendees as a 'must-do' event due to the quality of the cause, professionalism with which it is run and the caliber of the facility at which it is held. People from a variety of Peabody functional areas, Peabody vendors and individuals with a connection to Jerry himself fill out the ranks of the tournament roster each year. In 2009 at the height of the global financial crisis, the tournament attracted a full field of 144 golfers plus additional guests for the dinner and live auction.

[The Journal of Explosives Engineering, an ISEE Publication](#), states that over the past 15 years the Jerry McDowell Foundation has grown into one of its the largest scholarship fundraiser in the mining, engineering and explosives industry. The annual Jerry McDowell Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament is held on the 3rd Monday in August at Greenbriar Hills CC in St. Louis, Missouri under the direction of the JMD Tournament Committee Chairmen Tom Clark, Mike Gleason and Jason Ryan.



The McDowell Scholarships have been given to Students at the following universities:

2010 Recipients.

1. Jerry McDowell Foundation Scholarship:
Worsey, Tristan P.
Missouri S & T
Senior
2. Jerry McDowell Foundation Scholarship:
Hoffmann, Eric J.
Missouri S & T
Junior
3. Jerry McDowell/Tri State Combined Scholarship:
Hoffman, Joshua
University of KY
Masters
4. Jerry McDowell Foundation Scholarship:
Nolan, Dominique
Missouri S & T
Masters

Each of the scholarships for 2010 were for \$1000 and McDowell Scholarship was combined with a Tri-state Scholarship for \$1000. The first McDowell Scholarship was given in 1995 and was one of two of the first scholarships given by the SEE Education Foundation. This year the McDowell Fund will give out \$4500 in scholarships.

ISEE - International Society of Explosives Engineers (SEE Education Foundation)

To apply for a McDowell scholarship, go to the website www.isee.org – the history under [About Us](#) highlights the Jerry McDowell Memorial Scholarship Foundation under the guidance of:

- Jeffrey Dean, Executive Director & General Counsel
- Arlene Chafe, Program Director

Managing the activities of all the education foundations through their [SEE Education Foundation](#) from their office based at 30325 Bainbridge Road, Cleveland, Ohio (440) 349-4400.

The SEE Education Foundation is a separate legal entity from ISEE was created in 1996 as a non-profit organization to serve the long-term education interests of the explosive, mining and engineering industry.

