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Auburn Rotarians distributed \$40,000 in scholarships this month to 62 area students. This is the 24<sup>th</sup> straight year that Auburn's Rotary club has supported the post-secondary educational dreams of students from the Auburn school district, Green River Community College and Auburn Adventist Academy. Funds are generated yearly from the profits of the Scholarship show, held in the Auburn Performing Arts center each May. The intimate setting and a long track record of popular performers is what makes the concert one of the premier country music events in the Pacific Northwest each year. The performers at this year's well-received concert were Neal McCoy and Bucky Covington.



Auburn Superintendent of Schools and Rotarian Linda Cowan has been on the scholarship show committee for many years. When asked why she takes time out of her many responsibilities to be involved with the annual event, she responded, "It is a joy for Auburn Rotary to let the students in our community know that we care about them and believe in them. The scholarships are saying that we know the recipients will be successful and we want to support them in achieving their goals and in helping dreams come true."

The Auburn Rotary Club is part of Rotary International, a network of service clubs with over 1.2 million members in 160 countries world-wide. Rotarians are involved in a variety of service projects, including nearly eliminating Polio world-wide, building wells in arid African villages, promoting world peace through educational opportunities, and being actively involved in improving lives in their local communities. The Annual Scholarship Show is the Auburn Club's major charitable fund-raiser. Other smaller scale events provide funds for other worthy projects locally and abroad.

A new board of directors for the Auburn club was recently inducted during a dinner at the Columbia Tower in Seattle. The incoming president for the 2007-2008 year is Mike McDermott, a partner at HBT Insurance in Auburn. When it came time for outgoing President Dr. Francis Horner (on the left in the photo) to perform the ceremonial transfer of the gavel, it was nowhere to be found. Ever-resourceful Rotarians quickly cobbled together a replacement made out of a butter knife inserted into a sourdough roll! That kind of "find a way" thinking is why the Scholarship Show, now entering its 25 year, has generated over \$500,000 in scholarships for Auburn students since its inception. Plan now to attend the 25th annual concert in May of 2008. As always, all the profits generated go to fund scholarships for the next year.

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