



# W. 2020 WHITNEY BENEFITS COMMUNITY REPORT

## EDWARD A. WHITNEY

### An unorthodox but visionary man

**M**ystery makes the life of Sheridan area benefactor Edward Augustus Whitney a compelling story. When he died in 1917, he left a financial legacy of \$852,000 or approximately \$14 million in today's dollars, but little personal history.

Although some of Whitney's relatives became famous for their extreme wealth, Edward Whitney came from only modest riches, the legacy of enterprising and intellectually confident ancestors.

#### EARLY LIFE

The third child of Abel and Pamela (Babcock) Whitney, Edward Augustus was born March 24, 1843, in Dalton, Massachusetts. Edward's father, Abel, was a prominent merchant in the wholesale flour business. Edward's brother John, was four years his senior. Edward also had two sisters; Clarissa, two years older, and Mary Louisa, two years younger. Tragedy struck the family when Edward was very young. His sister Mary Louisa died in 1846, and in 1849, both his mother and older sister died within three months of each other.

Between 1843 and 1850 the family moved from Dalton on the far western side of the

state, to Lowell, Massachusetts, in the northeast corner of the state. In Lowell, Edward's father owned a book store and his brother John worked there as a clerk. Edward's father Abel remarried in 1850, this time to Belinda Baxter Bliss, and they had two children, Henry Dwight and Mary Ella.

From 1856 to 1859, Edward attended the Sillig Institution, a boy's school near Vevey, Switzerland. The school promoted its high quality education in classical, scientific, military and commercial subjects, as well as guidance in general, moral, mental and physical development. All lessons were taught in French, and the school itself was located on the Swiss Riviera, an area noted for its healthful climate. Great emphasis was placed on healthful outdoor exercise, and hiking in the Alps was apparently one of Edward's favorite activities.

Tragedy struck the family again, when Henry died in 1860, and Mary Ella died in 1867. After returning from Switzerland (1859), Edward, now 17, moved to Northampton, Massachusetts and lived with his uncle, Josiah Dwight Whitney.

Now retired, Josiah had been in the flour business, and was a broker and private banker before becoming the cashier (manager) of the Northampton Bank. In the 1850s he served as the bank's President and Director.

Uncle Josiah was also active in charity, community and church work. Josiah had a very large family (in fact, Josiah fathered fourteen children with two wives) and Edward must have enjoyed his cousins immensely.

According to the 1860 Census, Edward worked as a clerk in his uncle's bank, and his cousin Henry, who was the same age, was a student at Yale College.

#### CIVIL WAR

In August 1862, Edward and his cousin Henry (both age 19) enlisted in the 52nd Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment. Their unit was involved in the assault of Port Hudson in July 1863, which gained control of the Hudson River for the Union Army.

Both Edward and Henry rose in the ranks and mustered out at the end of their nine month term of enlistment. Cousin Henry served in other positions related to the war, and later resumed his studies in theology at Princeton.

He was later a pastor in the Congregational Church, a professor of rhetoric and English literature at Beloit College, Wisconsin, and retired as the librarian of Blackstone Memorial Library, Branford, Connecticut.



Edward A. Whitney is pictured with some children during a trip to Japan in 1902.

COURTESY PHOTO | WHITNEY BENEFITS

#### GOING WEST

By the time he was 25, Whitney was fluent in French, had lived in Switzerland, traveled Europe extensively and served in the Civil War. He left all that behind and came west, first to Iowa, then to Wyoming.

There is a chance that Whitney arrived in Iowa after returning from a visit to Yellowstone before it was a national park. The Whitney papers include a 1928 speech written by the editor of the Sheridan Post-Enterprise, L. L. MacBride, which included the following excerpt about Mr. Whitney: "Once in his earlier days, he read an army report telling of a region that had been found in the great and unexplored Northwest where steaming geysers could be seen on every side. Mr. Whitney immediately came west as far as the railroad would take him, and then traveled up the Missouri and the Yellowstone to Fort Benton on a little mud steamer. Then he set out through the wilderness for the Union Pacific railroad in the Snake River country. But he saw the wonders of what later was to become Yellowstone Park." If correct, this would have made Mr. Whitney one of the first white men to enjoy the incredible wonders of what years later would become Yellowstone National Park.

In 1885, Whitney arrived in Sheridan. It has also been said that Whitney came to the Sheridan area for his health. His medical records indicate he suffered from chronic bronchiectasis, one of the chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases. This condition may have caused Whitney to keep to himself, but the dry western climate offered some relief.

It seems remarkable that despite his cosmopolitan back-

ground, this highly educated, well-traveled and well-to-do man of the world, somehow made his way to the brand new town of Sheridan, WY platted only three years earlier.

He never married and had, with one exception, no connection with his birth family. Solitary and introverted (but not anti-social) Whitney died an enigmatic figure. Mr. Whitney died at the age of 74 on November 18, 1917 in his living quarters above the bank where he'd lived his entire

life in Sheridan. The cause of his death was chronic bronchiectasis, from which he had suffered for a number of years. Whitney's will instructed that his cremated ashes be divided and half buried at Sheridan's Mount Hope Cemetery. The inscription on his headstone reads "What a man really believes seems to him to be really true, but that does not make it so, except to his mind."

The other half were to be buried across the lake from the boarding school he had attended as a boy. His wishes were very specific; the burial site was to have an unobstructed view of the Dent du Midi Mountains near Lake Geneva, Vevey, Switzerland. Joseph Dayton Thorn, the executor of Whitney's estate deposited the ashes in 1921 while on a three month vacation in Europe.

**'My estate does not belong to me; I'm only its steward: it belongs to the people and I dare not be careless with it.'**

Edward A. Whitney

SEE WHITNEY, PAGE 4



COURTESY PHOTO | WHITNEY BENEFITS

Edward (right) and his cousin Henry (left) enlisted in the 52nd Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment in August 1862. Their unit was involved in the assault of Port Hudson in July, 1863, which gained control of the Hudson River for the Union Army. Both Edward and Henry rose in the ranks and mustered out at the end of their nine month term of enlistment.



COURTESY PHOTO | WHITNEY BENEFITS

This undated photo shows Sheridan area benefactor Edward A. Whitney as a young man.



# THREE DIRECTIVES FROM THE WILL

## 1 Interest-free student loan program

In his last will and testament, one of the three things Edward A. Whitney directed his corporation to establish was an interest-free student loan program. The Whitney student loan program provides interest free student loans to Sheridan and Johnson County high school graduates.

Since inception of the program in 1928, through June 30, 2020, the corporation has loaned 6,136 students approximately \$46,860,659.49. For the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2020, Whitney approved interest free loans totaling \$2,132,150 to 107 students; 83 students received loans for the first time and 24 students had received loans previously. As of June 30, 2020, Whitney

has \$12,084,696.40 in student loan monies loaned and/or committed to Sheridan and Johnson County students.

Whitney Benefits uses an online student loan application process that is also mobile device friendly. It can be accessed at [www.whitneybenefits.org](http://www.whitneybenefits.org). Students may apply if they are a graduate of a Sheridan or Johnson County high school; obtained the GED from a Sheridan or Johnson County high school or Sheridan College; or have had at least seven years of continuous physical, not legal, residency in Sheridan or Johnson County immediately prior to applying for a loan.

For the 2020-2021 academic school year, undergraduate students may be eligible to borrow up to a \$24,000 credit limit for academic or vocational studies, up to \$6,000 per academic year. An additional \$16,000 is available for graduate or professional studies, a \$40,000 total loan for undergraduate and graduate studies combined. All past and present students are limited to a \$40,000 lifetime credit limit.

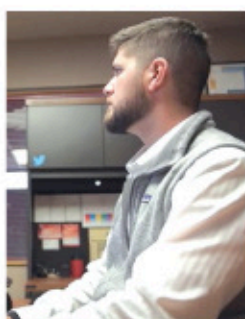
The Whitney staff presents the student loan program information each year at the Sheridan and Johnson County high schools' financial aid nights in an effort to inform the community about this unique and valuable opportunity.

Whitney Benefits acknowledges and thanks the Homer A. Scott and Mildred S. Scott Foundation for their past \$250,000 gift to further the commitment to provide interest free student loans.

### Interest Free Student Loan

- Up to \$24,000 for undergraduate and vocational students
- Up to \$40,000 for graduate students

## Testimonials: Rob Johnson and Zack Cummins



### Rob Johnson

"The interest free loan I received from Whitney Benefits allowed me to pay for tuition, books and housing while I was enrolled at Black Hills State and played on the men's basketball team.

"I was able to graduate in 2013 with a degree in economics and finance and thus the benefits that come from having an interest-free loan program available to me were not taken for granted.

"The life skills I acquired through both education and athletics come as a direct result of the Whitney Loan Program, and I am forever thankful.

"I feel very blessed to have been raised in a community that is so focused on the success of its young people. I can now give back to the community myself as the current Vice President of the Sheridan Memorial Hospital Foundation.

I also seek to serve the community in my role as the Vice President of the Tongue River Valley Scholarship Fund Board, which provides scholarships for the next generation of deserving students to achieve their dreams."



### Zack Cummins

"The thing I love about the Whitney Loan program is that it is a local foundation helping local students. Due to the affordable Whitney loan, I had the opportunity to attend the University of Northern Colorado, where the opportunity to get into real estate first presented itself to me.

"After UNC I returned to Sheridan to pursue a career in real estate. Even when I was first getting started, the payments were not a burden, and Whitney always worked with me on repayment terms when I needed it.

"Now looking back as a business owner, I am grateful for how Whitney gives back to the community. Giving is a value that has become important to me and my team here at Concept Z- Home & Property. This has developed into the Concept Give-Back program which donates \$1,000 from a fund that grows through a portion of the commission every time an associate closes a transaction at our office. We've been very blessed to be able to support some very important local causes, and it is rewarding that our clients get to be a part of that as well. Like Whitney, we feel like investing back into the community is important, and part of what makes Sheridan the wonderful place that we all love!"

## WHITNEY SCHOLARS COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION

As the Whitney Scholars program continues to grow, Whitney Benefits would like to thank all the Whitney Scholars for their support of Edward A. Whitney's educational mission. The influence of Whitney loan program in our community is undeniable.

This year we were proud to see distinguished Whitney Scholars honored for their career and volunteer pursuits including several alumni recognized in 'The Sheridan Press' "20 under 40." We wish to congratulate Whitney Scholars on their pursuit of creating a culture of commitment to education and giving back to the community. Watch for further development of this program and know that your feedback is valuable as Whitney seeks to find new ways to better equip our community with education and career resources.

Whitney hopes to be in touch with those scholars who might have lost contact. Scholars are asked to please send their current contact information. There is a form that can be completed on the Whitney website at [www.whitneybenefits.org](http://www.whitneybenefits.org).

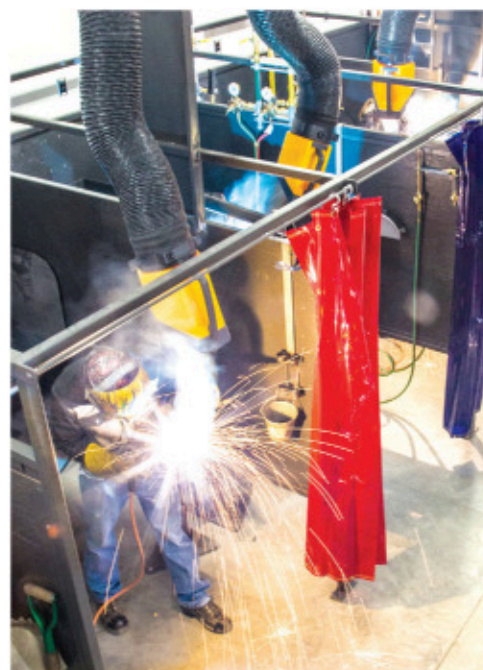
If you would like to share your story of educational and career growth through the help of a Whitney loan please contact us at the Whitney office at 307-674-7303.

## 2 Funding a college in the city of Sheridan

### WHITNEY DAY

Sheridan College hosted the third annual Whitney Day event at Sheridan College to honor Edward A. Whitney and his legacy of support of higher education in Sheridan County. The events were a combination of informative, educational and fun events that aimed to educate residents of Sheridan County, Sheridan College students and staff about Whitney's life and legacy.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the events were limited to one day this year. On Sept. 18, 2020, Sheridan College hosted a Coffee & Donuts event, a Walk With Whitney — Explore the Trails tour event at Malcolm Wallop Park and a Take and Paint event. Even with the restrictions and changes, many students and community members participated in these events. A clothing and food drive for the Sheridan College Hope Closet also took place to provide food, clothing and personal items for students in need.



### SECOND CENTURY LEGACY GRANT

In 2018, Whitney Benefits announced a gift of \$11,369,000 to Sheridan College in remembrance of Mr. Edward A. Whitney who passed away 100 years prior. In 2020, \$1,304,000 was gifted. The gift is to support faculty in several academic areas including: agriculture, machine tool technology, welding technology, diesel technology, general and visual arts and the music program. These programs were all selected as potential growth areas and align with regional economic development priorities.

Also included in the grant is support for marketing and recruitment as well as funding for the creation of a student success mentoring program modeled from the current TRIO program at Sheridan College. This program will improve student persistence and completion by utilizing a contemporary mentoring model that goes beyond traditional advising to include comprehensive service, from selecting a career path through acquiring the first job upon completion.

The Whitney Second Century Legacy grant added 18 full-time positions, and one part-time position at Sheridan College.

### ALLIED HEALTH BUILDING

Whitney Benefits has been committed to the Allied Health Science programs at Sheridan College for decades, dedicating millions of dollars toward equipment, teaching instructors, endowed health educational chairs, health practicums and capital construction projects. In 2020, Whitney committed to donating an additional \$1 Million over three years to Sheridan College for construction costs for the remodel and new sections of the Allied Health Building. \$400,000 was paid out in 2020.

Whitney Benefits remains committed to the educational excellence of Sheridan College students and believes in the need for outstanding health care professionals to live and work in Sheridan. Collaboration continues with other donors and local foundations on this local community program.

### EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

In 2016, Whitney Benefits made a three year grant to Sheridan College for \$240,000 to focus on early childhood education within Sheridan County. An Early Childhood Liaison team was formed that developed a mission, goals and a work plan for the upcoming years. The team made informal assessments of the early childhood providers and established relationships with 20 licensed child care providers in Sheridan County.

This team, in collaboration with the Homer and Mildred Scott Foundation, the local YMCA and the child care providers established monthly visits with local day care providers, developed a "Kindlers Learn" program for children ages birth to 5 years old. They established early childhood provider training in cooperation with Sheridan County School District 2. The cooperative efforts with all of

these groups, families and parents has established learning and play opportunities for young children, preparing them to be better equipped for entering elementary school education. The program has benefited hundreds of young families and their children.

Whitney is grateful for the commitment, the collaboration and the support of local organizations and foundations.

### AG PILOT PROGRAM

In 2018, Whitney Benefits approved funding a three-year agricultural educational pilot project at Sheridan College. In 2020, \$8,623.74 was gifted. This project will allow agriculture students the opportunity to get hands on experience in several different project aspects. The plot is located to the south of the Mars Agriculture Center on the Sheridan College campus.

### \$25.3 MILLION GRANT

In 2014, Whitney Benefits committed to the largest gift in the history of Sheridan College in the amount of \$25.3 million. In 2020, Whitney continued to fund this extraordinary gift with a grant of \$2,130,172.50. The commitment from Whitney Benefits to Sheridan College included the necessary \$1.3 million required to complete the \$8 million Mars Agriculture and Science Center renovation project, \$16 million to support the renovation and construction of the Whitney Center for the Arts Building, \$2 million to support infrastructure and parking improvements on the main campus and \$6 million for approximately half of the Tech Center renovation and expansion project.

### NEW RESIDENCE HALL

In September 2018, Whitney Benefits committed \$7.1 million to Sheridan College for the construction of a 100-bed residence hall. \$284,000 was gifted in 2020. The new dorms were open for student use for the fall 2020 semester. They were named Centennial Hall in recognition of the 100-year legacy of Edward A. Whitney's generosity.

The payments will be made over a 25-year time frame. The total project cost was \$9 million with the remaining \$1.9 million being paid for by revenue from students' residence hall fees.

The new Centennial Hall includes three floors with traditional rooms, common lounges and study rooms.

It is located just east of the Thorne-Rider Campus Center at Sheridan College.

### NEW 3-D PRINTER

In 2020, Whitney Benefits gifted \$28,000 to Sheridan College to purchase a new 3D printer and cartridges for a unique opportunity to fabricate masks for Sheridan Memorial Hospital and the Sheridan community to help stop the spread of COVID-19. This printer will then be used by several different educational and vocational programs and allow more students the opportunity to get hands on experience with equipment they will be using in the workplace.

# **B** Funding a community center

## *Spirit of Sheridan Community Concert*



### WHITNEY COMMONS PARK

Whitney Commons, an interactive park located in the center of Sheridan between the Fulmer Library and The Hub on Smith at 320 West Alger St., has something for everyone to enjoy.

Several features include a playground designed for fun and safety, large turf areas supporting any number of activities, the popular water spray grounds, an amphitheater and plaza area, vintage lighting illuminating pedestrian walks and bike paths, the Dorothy King reflective flower garden and closed circuit

cameras providing park security and on-line viewing. Bronze art pieces reflecting and honoring Whitney's life have also added beauty and interest to the park.

Whitney Benefits completed construction of a new pavilion in the center of the park this past spring. Patrons can now enjoy shade for special events and for daily use. Whitney Commons is a safe, clean and fun environment for families and the Sheridan community to enjoy.

Whitney Commons is also a perfect location for many private events including weddings, birthday parties and reunions. The unique features are a perfect environment for a variety of events.

In 2020, many of the community events that are usually hosted at Whitney Commons were canceled due to COVID-19 restrictions and concerns. However, many small private events still took place with appropriate social distancing.



#### SPIRIT OF SHERIDAN COMMUNITY CONCERT

A concert in celebration of the Spirit of Sheridan was held at Whitney Commons park July 2, 2020. The concert was free and open to the public. The event featured a range of music from country and Americana to jazz and fusion featuring Ebenezer Eferobor and Conversations and the Craft Brothers. Several food and beverage vendors were available including Up in Smoke, Bistro 307, Luminous Brewhouse and Rollin Sweet's ice cream truck. This event was truly about celebrating the Spirit of Sheridan by providing a safe venue for people to come together as a community and have some fun. A "pass the hat" collection totaled \$2,000 and the proceeds were given to the Sheridan Chamber of Commerce's Sheridan Fund for families who were in financial need. A special thank you to Tony Forman and Paul Del Rossi for organizing the event and to JT Craft and Ebenezer Eferobor on their substantial input.

#### OUT OF THE DARKNESS SUICIDE PREVENTION WALK

The 10th annual Out of the Darkness Walk was held Sept. 12, 2020 at Whitney Commons Park. The event was hosted by the local chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention to raise awareness of and funding for suicide prevention resources

and efforts in Wyoming. This walk provides the community with an opportunity to come together to bring hope, remember loved ones and shine a light on the stigma that surrounds suicide and mental health problems.

#### MARCH AGAINST FAMILY VIOLENCE

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness month. The Advocacy and Resource Center of Sheridan and Compass Center for Families hosted the "March Against Family Violence" Oct. 10, 2020, at Whitney Commons park. The Advocacy and Resource Center of Sheridan provides assistance to victims of all violent crimes in Sheridan County that may not have anywhere else to turn. They help inform victims of their rights, provide support navigating the criminal justice system as a result of the violence, teaching them the options and choices available to victims, connect them with resources and offer legal assistance.

According to the Advocacy and Resource Center of Sheridan, by knowing their rights and having advocacy services available to them, victims of crime are less likely to feel victimized by the system, more likely to cooperate with the justice process and more likely to feel satisfied with the resolution of their cases, regardless of the outcome. The march was to raise awareness of family violence and to show that healthy families make a healthy community.

#### WHITNEY PLAZA

Whitney Plaza offers retail, office and residential property and has nearly 500 parking spaces for various community and business uses. The building design of the buildings in Whitney Plaza reflect that of properties located in Sheridan's historic downtown business district.

For more information on Whitney Plaza please visit the Whitney Benefits website at [www.whitneybenefits.org](http://www.whitneybenefits.org).

#### THE GIFT OF WATER

In 2020, Whitney Benefits gifted the city of Sheridan in excess of 50 million gallons of stored Park Reservoir water to assist in watering Sheridan's parks, pathways and greenways, including the Sheridan Recreation District's Thorne-Rider Park, Oatts Baseball Complex, Dan Madia Soccer Field, as well as the city of Sheridan's Washington Park, Black Tooth Park, the elk pasture and Kendrick Park.

Water is also donated to Sheridan County for the Sheridan County Fairgrounds.

Additionally, Whitney contributes water to the University of Wyoming Science and Research Center located at Whitney's Adams ranch for students and educators with experimental test plots, grape vineyards and crop irrigation.

# WHITNEY: A visionary man

FROM 1

## WHITNEY TRUNK

The world got a better understanding of Whitney in 2004 when a trunk of his belongings was discovered. It contained land patents, legal papers, number filled journals, receipts from his world travels, but still few personal effects. Still, the documents provided a framework for understanding this mysterious man and his unorthodox but visionary nature. Among Whitney papers is a yellowed adding machine tape with his penciled notes pointing out an error here and there. It is dated November 19, 1917. On the day that Whitney died, he was still calculating his net worth, still taking solace in numbers.

## WHITNEY BENEFITS FOUNDATION

Edward A. Whitney willed his estate to establish Whitney Benefits, creating the first educational foundation in Wyoming.

According to his original trustees, Whitney spent three decades of his life planning his gift to the people of Sheridan County.

He made extensive investigations in the East as to how trust funds were structured for education, and repeatedly asked his three associates, later to become the trustees of his estate, for suggestions.

The foundation was established in 1927, 10 years after his death in 1917, as provided by his will. In the years since the establishment of the foundation the earnings from the trust have provided over \$46 million in interest-free loans to over 6,100 local students, contributed over \$101 million to Sheridan College, provided over \$11.7 million to the YMCA, built Whitney Commons Park and the Sheridan Ice Rink, established the downtown Whitney Center which houses the Sheridan College Simulation Center and benefited the area and its people in many other ways.

Whitney left two legacies: an educational foundation, Whitney Benefits, and an unorthodox but visionary will that has become one of most enduring legal instruments in Wyoming trust law.



Whitney is famously remembered for the quote, "My estate does not belong to me; I am only its steward, it belongs to the people and I dare not be careless with it."

The will was Whitney's passion and he never let it rest. He began writing the document in 1890 and was still amending it weeks before he died in 1917. The will establishes that the foundation can fund three areas: 1. To create an interest free student loan program to help both "the hand worker and the brain worker" with educational expenses. 2. To create a community center

for the advancement of education and benefit the residents of Sheridan County that must be located in the city of Sheridan. 3. To establish and fund an agricultural college in Sheridan, Wyoming.

In 2011, Whitney Benefits announced the launch of two individual books regarding Edward A. Whitney and the Whitney Benefits foundation. The books "The History of Whitney Benefits" and "Solace in Numbers," a biography of Edward A. Whitney, are available at Sheridan Stationery Books Gallery located in Sheridan.

## Whitney Foundation continues certification for fiduciary excellence

The CEFEX standard of excellence for Investment Stewards is based on fiduciary practices that seek to increase long-term investment performance by diversifying the portfolio across multiple asset classes and peer groups, evaluating investment management fees and expenses, and selecting or terminating investment managers.

Investment stewards, such as Whitney Benefits trustees and staff, have the primary responsibility for effective management and the adherence to investment fiduciary practices. Benefits of fiduciary assessments include: establishing evidence that Whitney is following a prudent investment process; increases long-term investment performance by identifying appropriate procedures for diversifying the portfolio across multiple asset classes and peer groups, evaluating investment management fees and expenses and selecting and terminating investment managers as appropriate.

This fiduciary practice uncovers investment and procedural risks not previously identified, which assists in prioritizing investment management projects. This practice encourages Whitney to

compare their practices to their peers, and assists in establishing benchmarks to measure Whitney's efforts. Whitney Benefits places the highest fiduciary importance on having the best practices in place. By its certification, Whitney can validate its adherence in fiduciary management and demonstrates that Whitney trustees and staff regard independent oversight of its financial activities as paramount.

Information on these fiduciary practices can be viewed by clicking on Whitney's on-line CEFEX certificate at [www.whitney-benefits.org](http://www.whitney-benefits.org).



**Investment Steward Certification Validated Oct. 22, 2020**



## Whitney Community Advisory Group

The Whitney Community Advisory Group was created in 2004 to provide input from various community members about current Whitney projects and events.

The group helps to oversee operations at Whitney Commons and Whitney Plaza and provides valuable community input. The current 2020 Community members include: Steve Carroll, Bill Gatley, Andrea Mellinger, Becky Newton, Stacia Skretteberg and Judy Stallman.

## Whitney staff

The Whitney staff follows the direction of the Board of Trustees to further the philanthropic ideals of the Whitney Foundation based on Mr. Edward A. Whitney's will.

**Patrick Henderson**  
*Executive Director*

**Janet Barnes**  
*Administrative Coordinator*

**Jennifer Destefano**  
*Student Loans Administrator*

**Craig Achord**  
*Controller*

**Sarah Sommers**  
*Support Assistant*

**David Sanders**  
**Aaron Leach**  
**Jim Lille**  
*Maintenance Staff*

# VOLUNTEER SERVICE ...

## WHITNEY BENEFITS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Edward A. Whitney specifically stated in his will that, "The corporation trustees, acting as such, shall receive no pay for their services, as it seems to me that the selection and honor of serving on such a board for such purpose would, with the opportunity given to benefit the youth of their own county, attract men of ability and influence who would find the work a labor of love, so to speak, and would willingly fill the office of advisors and directors of the paid working officials into whose hands they commit the actual working out of their plans and instructions."

Since 1927, when Whitney Benefits was created, 103 dedicated individuals have served on the Whitney Benefits Board of Trustees. All together, the Whitney Trustees to date have dedicated over 1,135 years of service supporting education and building our Sheridan community.

C.V. Davis 1927-1947  
Alf Diefenderfer 1927-1945  
F.A. Eaton 1927-1937  
Edward P. Fitzgerald 1927-1935  
W.G. Griffen 1927-1943  
Vernon Griffith 1927-1959  
Emerson Hanson 1927-1962  
I.P. Hayes 1927-1945  
B.G. McKeen 1927-1943  
H.C. Stevens 1927-1929 & 1936-1945  
J.D. Thorn 1927-1931  
Allen Williams 1927-1937  
N.P. Yentzer 1927-1929  
E.C. Bowman 1930-1955  
Peter Kool 1930-1935  
L.J. O'Marr 1931-1943  
J. Frank Kirkpatrick 1935-1941  
Ralph Carmichael 1936-1955  
Lawrence S. Fuller 1937-1943  
W.N. Shackelford 1942-1965  
William D. Redle 1943-1959  
O.G. Rhode 1944-1963  
Edwin Small 1944-1947  
James Wolfe 1944-1959  
Dr. P.M. Schunk 1945-1945  
Jackson Bentley 1946-1953  
George Johnson 1946-1951  
Andre Zoutte 1946-1953  
Ralph Hylton 1948-1959  
Ted Kellner 1948-1952  
Hubert O. Minick 1951-1958  
E.E. Edwards 1952-1959  
James Carroll 1954-1960  
Robert Holstedt 1954-1965  
Charles H. Kane 1956-1959

J.W. Wilson, Jr. 1956-1961  
Clifford H. Carroll 1958-1961  
Harold Newton 1960-1961 & 1972-1981  
Jesse K. Beeson 1960-1967  
C.D. Calhoun 1960-1963  
W.J. Christensen 1960-1967  
William Long 1960-1975  
Dr. Peter Madsen 1960-1987  
Homer Scott, Sr. 1960-1993  
Gus Booras 1962-1965  
Henry A. Burgess 1962-1993  
J. Gordon Macalister 1962-1965  
Donald Roberts 1962-1965  
Fred Kaufmann 1964-1969  
William Welch 1964-1967  
Warren Sheldon 1965-1969  
C.B. Metz 1966-1993  
Frank Panetta 1966-1972  
Joe Parker 1966-1982  
S. Watts Smyth 1966-1977  
Burton Kerns 1968-1989  
Ralph Foster 1969-1970  
George Gligorea 1970-1991  
Dorothy King 1970-2001  
John P. Chase 1972-2013  
W. E. Cook 1972-1991  
Dr. George Ewan 1975-1999  
Jane Schroeder 1977-1991  
N.A. Nelson, Jr. 1982-2001  
David Withrow 1982-2013  
David Parker 1986-1999  
Ray Johnston 1989-1994  
Waldo Forbes 1991-1999  
Tim Barnes 1992-2001  
**Roy Garber 1992-Present**

Darlene Reiter 1993-1997  
Ky Dixon 1994-1997  
Bruce Hendricks 1994-1996  
**Sam Scott 1994-Present**  
John Smith 1996-1999 & 2002-2005  
Candy Hardesty 1998-1999  
Janet Ludwig 1998-2001  
**Tom Belus 2000-Present**  
Tom Kinnison 2000-2018  
Gary Koltiska 2000-2003  
Tim Tarver 2000-2004  
Tom Throne 2000-2003  
**Kim Love 2001-Present**  
Val Burgess 2002-2013  
Mary Ellen McWilliams 2002-2005  
John Patton 2002-2002  
Dr. Sy Thickman 2002-2002  
Maureen Humphrys 2003-2015  
Peter Schoonmaker 2004-2019  
Samuel S. Street 2005-2014  
**Stephen Holst 2006-Present**  
**Everett E. McGlothlin 2006-Present**  
**Robert Prusak 2013-Present**  
Lori McMullen 2014-2017  
Lynie Phipps 2014-2020  
Tom Pilch 2014-2017  
Dave Ferries 2015-2018  
**Brandi Bilyeu 2018-Present**  
**Nadine Gale 2018-Present**  
**Dave Kinskey 2018-Present**  
**Doug Hockett 2019-Present**  
**Cameron Duff 2020-Present**  
**Pam Peldo 2020-Present**