



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

2010

\$2,000 President's Scholarship Award Recipient

Clay Schneider

Brett Schneider (FFZ)

Union: A Brotherhood for All

Family means different things to different people. For some, a family is a support system.

For some, a family is a resource. For some, a family is forever. A union represents all of these definitions for all of its members. Thus, a union is in essence, a family.

In my family, the union has always played an integral role. My maternal grandfather gave 40 years of his life to the coal mining industry in Illinois. The Illinois coal mines exemplified an industry that exacted physical hardships in an unstable environment dictated by political agendas. This type of industry is exactly why a union presence was created. It was this union presence that kept the family afloat financially and emotionally during the biannual strikes that were necessary to ensure safe working conditions. Unfortunately, not even the union could save him or several other men who worked beside him in the mines from Lou Gehrig's disease. The union supported my grandmother as she and the other families dealt with this loss. The union was the supporting backbone of the coal mine family.

Moreover, the union has also played a vital role in my parent's lives. My mother was able to fulfill her dream of a college

education, the first in her family to do so, with the help of a scholarship from that same union. The union provided her with a reward for her hard work in high school. She finished her undergraduate work and began her profession as a teacher. She is now almost finished with her master's degree in education. Her focus, drive, and respect for education, supported by the union brotherhood, had been passed on to me.

Additionally, my father is a current and active member of his NATCA local. I have witnessed firsthand as his industry bent to political agendas and leadership. I watched him put on a shirt with a restrictive collar and unyielding dress shoes as he prepared to take watch over thousands of lives. Ironically, his discomfort was only mirrored by the physical discomfort of his fellow controllers, since no member of the flying public could see his "uniform." I then watched as the strong and mighty union fought back. I now smile as my father puts on his freshly laundered, very presentable, albeit comfortable t-shirt and shorts as he now commutes to work on his environmentally aware bicycle. His brotherhood allowed this change to occur.

Thus, I have been raised to appreciate and respect the union family. It is with this great respect that I submit my application for the National Air Traffic Controllers Association Scholarship. I have been accepted by Arizona State University and plan to major in computer science. I will take with me the strength and determination that my union family has helped instill in me. I hope that you will consider me for me the NATCA family scholarship.

\$1,000 Scholarship Award Recipients

Angela Armocida
Stephan Armocida (ZOB)

Lauren Conde
Scott Conde (ZOA)

Haley Koleszar
Garth Koleszar (ZLA)

Jacqueline Parshook
Leon Parshook (TPA)

Carolyn Trent
Mark Trent (ZDC)

Jeff Arnold
Jason Arnold (ZME)

Sarah Hansen
Paul Hansen (MCI)

Angela Labardini
Eric Labardini (ZHU)

Matthew Schneider
Marc Schneider (ZID)

Casey Ullmann
Jim Ullmann (ZSE)

Symone Baptiste
Michael Baptiste (IAD)

Sarah Hathcock
Russell Hathcock (LIT)

Kelsey Littell
Steve & Roanna McCoy (NCT)

Ruth Smith
Steven Smith (EEA)

Lauren Webb
Danny Webb (NKT)

Garrett Bianchi
Kevin Bianchi (ZBW)

Matthew Jones
Michael Jones (CLT)

Justin Longua
Jeff Longua (ZAU)

Brittany Tomlin
Marcus Tomlin (ANC)

Leander White
Leander White (TPA)

Jordan Browning
Mark Browning (DAY)

Tyler Kelly
Joseph Lawrence (PWM)

Eric Maldonado
Raymond Maldonado (N90)

Amanda Townend
Edward Townend (ZKC)

Jody Zimmerman
Joe Zimmerman (ZNY)