

Dear Parker Rotary Club Members,

Thank you so much for the \$1,000 scholarship for the 2018-2019 academic year. I was one of your recipients last year from Ponderosa high school and I wanted to let you know how my first year at school went. Your generosity enabled me to take out fewer loans to finance my education. I was able to focus more on my studies and community service because of your help.

Currently I am pursuing a mechanical engineering degree through the Colorado Mesa University (CMU)/CU Boulder partnership program. I chose CMU because after being born and raised in Parker, I wanted to go to a smaller school with the great outdoors a short distance away. I was accepted to Colo. School of Mines as well as CSU's engineering program but kept returning to Grand Junction as my first choice.

Academically, this past year I have completed 34 credit hours and maintained a 3.73 GPA. My overall college GPA is 3.76. I am dedicated to my schoolwork and achieving success in my program.

During the first-year engineering projects class, my team and I developed an air pump to replace the ones that the Outdoor Program was using. The pumps they were renting out with the inflatable kayaks were coming back damaged and were expensive to replace. My two teammates and I came up with a design, purchased the materials and built a functional and low-cost alternative air pump. Governor Polis stopped by and tried it himself during our demonstration.

Also, during the spring semester, I competed in the trebuchet and catapult competition with the same two teammates. There were approx. 24 teams in the competition, and we placed the highest out of all the trebuchets and only lost by a point to a catapult team. We were able to adjust our weight and distance by changing the number of nuts on the counterweight.

As an Eagle Scout, I know the importance of helping to serve in the community in which you live and give back. This year I participated in the "Go Baby Go" program of retrofitting a Barbie Jeep to accommodate the needs of a disabled child. My team and I pulled the standard vehicle apart and changed the controls, wiring and seating to accommodate the child we were assigned to assist. We spent many evenings and weekends working together on this project. To see the happiness of all the children and parents when they were presented their vehicles was amazing. I hope to be involved in additional projects like this in my future.

In my spare time, I am a member of Young Life and have strong spiritual and moral beliefs. I also participate in a lot of trips put on by the outdoor education program. I have a great love of the outdoors and travelling, and I am always exploring this great area. I was very lucky to have been able to go to Zion National Park trip where we rappelled through canyons to reach some beautiful places. I love to go out and hike and camp with my friends and enjoy all the amazing sights to see.

I have a love of cars and I am always working on them in my spare time. When I am home on my breaks and summertime, I work as a service technician at Grease Monkey. It is a very busy and physically demanding job in all types of weather conditions, but I enjoy it because I am always learning about mechanical differences between the vehicles.

After I graduate, I am now leaning towards the automotive side of engineering or aerospace engineering. I am fascinated with SpaceX and their accomplishments and would like to be part of their

team. But I am also enjoying working on my car and feel that there is still so much that can be done in the automotive manufacturing area that can increase fuel efficiency and safety. I plan to apply for internships with automotive or aerospace companies before I graduate.

I want to once again thank you so much for your generosity and support with awarding me the Rotary scholarship in 2018. I have included some pictures so you can see the events I participated in. I will work diligently in my studies and continue to give back to the community and one day I hope I can financially give back to another student as you have done for me.

Sincerely,

Justin Stenman

