



Houston Electrical League Named Scholarship Awards



In Memory of Mr. J.R. Thompson * Warren Electric * \$2,000

Mr. J.R. Thompson was Warren Electric's patriarch, who guided the company and dominated the Gulf Coast's petrochemical industry during some of its biggest growth years. Warren Electric was one of the most highly respected electrical distributors in the United States. Thompson Hall on the campus of Texas A&M is named after J.R. Mr. Thompson was recognized as a "Texas Legend" in the July 2014 issue of Electrical Wholesaling Magazine.



In Memory of Mr. Clyde Rutland * Wholesale Electric * \$2,000

Mr. Rutland was a successful business man having one of the largest independent electrical distributorships in the industry. His greatest achievement was Wholesale Electric Supply Company founded in 1949 by Clyde and his wife Marge. There are now 12 branches and over 475 employees. He served as President of N.A.E.D. and supported The University of Houston Industrial Distribution Scholarship Program and many other charities.



In Memory of Mr. John David Millner * Wholesale Electric * \$2,000 (Sponsored)

John received his degree in Industrial Distribution from The University of Houston. He was employed by Wholesale Electric for 22 years, starting in the warehouse and working his way up to Operations Manager. John was active on The HEL Board serving on the scholarship committee promoting the HEL at The University of Houston. This scholarship is sponsored by a generous annual grant from Wholesale Electric and the McKellop family.



In Honor of Mr. Jim Krepper * Elgin B. Robertson Co. * \$2,000

Mr. Krepper has been active in The HEL for 31 years. He was instrumental in starting, and organizing, The Southwest Electrical Exposition (SWEE) for 18 years – one of The HEL's largest fund raising events. Jim is still active on the HEL Board and currently serves as a co-chair for our annual E.T.C. event. Mr. Krepper has spent 49 years in the electrical industry and currently works for Elgin B. Robertson Co. as a manufacturer's sales rep.



In Honor of Mr. Mickey DeHart * Powell Industries * \$2,000

Mr. DeHart began his HEL involvement in 1972, serving on various committees and leadership positions. Mickey was a driving force behind the development of our HEL Internship Program, which has benefitted hundreds of college students interested in a career in technical sales. Mr. DeHart retired from Powell Industries in 2007 after 47 years of service. He currently resides on his farm near Giddings, Texas and is active in the local community.



In Honor of Mr. Jim Sims * Eaton Corporation * \$2,000

Mr. Sims has been an active member of The HEL for 27 years. Jim has served in numerous roles with The HEL, including President of The League. He continues to contribute on the Scholarship Committee as well as the KW Kooker team during the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo, one of our biggest fund raising events of the year. He retired from the Eaton Corporation in 2014 after 41 years of service in direct sales and sales management.



In Honor of Mr. Danney McCoy * Bell & McCoy Companies * \$2,000

Mr. McCoy formed Bell & McCoy in 1972 with his business partner, Gene Bell. Bell & McCoy now has over 200 employees with locations in six states. His outlook on the value of The HEL can best be summarized by an excerpt from his retirement letter – “I can only hope that everyone associated with our electrical industry will continue to encourage our younger generation and make them aware of the many opportunities available for them in our business.” Mr. McCoy retired in 2014.



In Honor of Mr. Gus Smith* \$2,000

Mr. Gus Smith has been an active member of The HEL for 40 years. He started his involvement in 1976 on the Membership Committee and became a Board Member in 1977. Gus served as Vice President of The League, worked on various committees associated with SWEE, served as Chairman of the KW Kookers, and was a founding member of our HEL Scholarship Committee. Mr. Smith is currently retired, but remains active in The HEL, mainly supporting the KW Kookers.



In Memory of Mr. Nick Bandiera * Powell Industries * \$2,000 (Sponsored)

Nick was a key member of The HEL Kilowatt Kookers and Charity Lighthouse BBQ teams. Nick’s dedication and hard work with KW Kookers led to many team BBQ awards at Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo BBQ Cook-off event. His family requested donations, in memory of Nick, be sent to the HEL Scholarship Fund. The Nick Bandiera Scholarship will be funded entirely by the many donations submitted to The HEL Scholarship Foundation, in memory of Mr. Nick Bandiera.

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FAQ’s about The HEL’s Named Scholarship Program ...

“Why does The HEL offer named scholarships?”

Named scholarships were started to honor and recognize past, and present, members of The HEL who have made significant contributions to the growth and success of The Houston Electrical League.

“How are these named scholarships funded and how are they awarded?”

Named scholarships are funded 100% by The HEL Scholarship Foundation. Awards are based on personal interviews with eligible students currently enrolled in the Industrial Distribution Program at Texas A&M University in College Station, or eligible Supply Chain & Logistics Majors currently enrolled at The University of Houston. Personal interviews are conducted by The HEL Scholarship Committee each year in February.

“How are Named Scholarship Honorees determined by The HEL?”

Selection criteria for all Named HEL Scholarship Honorees are based on several factors, including but not limited to, at least 15 years of continuous involvement in The League, active participation on one or more committees, financial support, participation in leadership positions, and general long-term promotion of the values and vision The HEL promotes and represents to our member companies, our event sponsors, and our general membership.

“Are there other ways to offer Named Scholarships through The HEL?”

Yes. If you, or your company, would like to recognize a member of The HEL who does not meet the above criteria, but was involved in the HEL, the HEL will discuss with you the opportunity to sponsor a Named Scholarship. Funding for these special named scholarships will need to be provided by the individual, or company, making the request. Examples of current sponsored Named Scholarships are the John Milner and Nick Bandiera Scholarship Awards. The HEL reserves the right to determine eligibility, conduct the personal interviews, and make the student award on your behalf.

“Why are Named Scholarships awarded to certain Universities?”

The honoree, or the family of the honoree, has input on where a Named Scholarship will be awarded. The HEL respects their request that the named scholarship, offered in their honor or in honor of their family member, will be awarded to an eligible student at the University of their choice, currently either Industrial Distribution Majors at Texas A&M in College Station or Supply Chain & Logistics Majors at The University of Houston.



Want to learn more about our HEL Scholarship Program and our Named Scholarships? Please contact us at www.hel.org.