

Westford Eagle - June 4, 1992

Trustees to award graduates \$50,000

By Gordon B. Seavey
Contributing Writer

As the graduates of this year's class, the 199th, of Westford Academy collect their diplomas this Friday, 140 also will receive checks from the Academy Trustees totaling \$50,000 in the form of scholarships.

The sums will vary from mainly \$100 to \$500, but there is the prestigious "Excellency in English" scholarship for \$7,500. This latter fund was established a few years ago by Frederic Fisher, former town accountant, in memory of his family, all of whom attended the school.

The money comes from funds of the trustees, which today nears \$1½ million. They are the accumulation of two centuries and are professionally managed. Ninety percent of the income is turned back to honor students and purchase special equipment for the Academy each year.

The Trustees have presented technical books to the 42 National Honor Society members and Presidential Classroom scholarships were passed along in the amount of \$2,000. The business department will benefit by funds to purchase four new computers.

Officers elected

A new set of officers of the 15-member Academy trustees was elected last week. President Eileen Anderson stepped down and Bette R. Hook was elected in her place. Mrs. Hook, the first woman to be elected to the trustees board in nearly two centuries, was a popular history teacher at the Academy where she retired in 1976.

Dr. Maurice Huckins is the new vice-president. Town moderator William J. Kavanagh will continue as treasurer, and Lloyd G. Blanchard, retired superintendent of Westford schools, was named secretary. John E. Leggat continues as attorney.

Two new scholarships were acknowledged, one from the Hoebeke family to be named the Hoebeke-Blanco scholarship for a "student who cares for others," and the Bob Shepherd Memorial, a fund gathered by students in the name of this popular teacher.

A tribute was paid to the late Austin D. Fletcher, a trustee for 32 years, who died last month. Principal Joseph Lisi was congratulated for developing and steering the 200th anniversary celebration of the founding of Westford Academy.



Photo by Gordon B. Seavey

Newly-elected officers for the 15-member Westford Academy board of trustees are (l-r) Dr. Maurice Huckins Jr., vice president; William K. Kavanagh, treasurer; Bette R. Hook, president; Lloyd G. Blanchard, secretary; Eileen Anderson, retiring president.