The Thomas G. Cantine, Jr. W2TQF Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was established after the untimely death of Thomas G. Cantine Jr, who was an active amateur radio operator for over 50 years. Obtaining his license at the age of 13 in 1957, Tom held the call sign: W2TQF. Tom's hobby of amateur radio led to a career as a sales engineer and engineering consultant. Tom taught amateur radio classes, was a volunteer examiner, active in ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service), RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) and was a charter member of the Fulton Amateur Radio Club and served as the president of the radio club for several terms. This scholarship has been set up in memory of Tom and his passion for amateur radio.

The purpose of amateur (ham) radio is to foster the art of wireless communications, and to encourage goodwill, cooperation, education, and emergency preparedness among licensees at local, national, and global levels. Licensed amateurs agree to abide by license class rules outlined by the FCC (Federal Communications Commission) after passing a written examination. A wide variety of activities and interests are available to the amateur radio operator. The Fulton Amateur Radio Club, founded in 1957, offers forums for discussion of relevant topics, instructions for amateur licensing, FCC license testing, and training for volunteer operators who provide wireless communications during special community events and emergencies.

This annual college scholarship, in the amount of $500, may be awarded to one or more licensed amateur radio operator(s) in the following New York state counties: Oswego, Onondaga, Cayuga and Jefferson. Competition is open to undergraduate students pursuing a career in electronics, engineering, communications, broadcasting, computer science, medical, or business-related fields. Selection is based on significant prior involvement in amateur radio, evidence of outstanding leadership and community service. The student must meet and fulfill the requirements listed below.

The $500 award will be paid in full to the student after successfully completion of one full semester with a GPA of 2.0 or higher. The selection committee will comprise of members of the Fulton Amateur Radio Club and members of the Cantine family. The Cantine family will have final authority on dispersing the award.

Requirements are:

1. The applicant must hold an active amateur radio license (any class). Proof of license is required; a copy must be enclosed with the application.
2. The applicant must live in one of the following Central New York counties: Oswego, Onondaga, Cayuga or Jefferson. Copy of license will verify address of applicant.
3. The applicant must be accepted into an accredited college or technical school. The applicant may be a graduating high school senior or a current undergraduate college student.
4. The applicant must be pursuing a degree in electronics, engineering, communications, broadcasting, computer science, medical, or business-related field.
5. The applicant must submit a completed scholarship application and include at least two (2) letters of recommendation from any combination of the following: employer, teacher, clergy, neighbor or friend. Persons serving as references cannot be related to the applicant.
6. The completed application must be received by May 25, 2024.

All scholarship information should be sent to:

Thomas Cantine W2TQF Memorial Scholarship, 2807 County Route 45, Fulton, New York 13069.

Scholarship questions to Pamela Cantine: pcantine@gmail.com or phone 315-592-9305.

1/2024