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A Quarterly Newsletter to keep you connected! >>> Volume 2, Issue 2 — April-June 2013

RCTC FOUNDATION CONNECTIONS

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ROCHESTER COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE FOUNDATION

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Yellowjacket Class Golf Outing

On Friday, June 14th, a fun time was had by all who came out to support the Yellowjacket Classic Golf Tournament held at Willow Creek Golf Course. This year marked the 19th year of the annual Yellowjacket Golf tournament that was first established by Cy Champa and Steve Kereakos to grow the Champa/ Kereakos Scholarship Endowment. In 2011, the annual Yellowjacket Football tournament was combined with the Champa/Kereakos Golf Outing to make one event with participation increasing each year. Supporters also got to choose which RCTC athletic team would benefit from tournament proceeds. This year we had teams representing Baseball, Men's and Women's Basketball, Football and Wrestling. The goal is the same: **SUPPORT RCTC ATHLETICS!**

Thank you to the community organizations, businesses and individuals who donated cash for the program and in-kind items for our raffle. SPECIAL THANKS go to our hole sponsors.

- David Adams – Rochester Royals
- Michael Berg
- Cy Champa
- Lynn Clarey – Sterling State Bank
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Scholarship News

The Rochester Community and Technical College Foundation held its annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony to celebrate and recognize 235 scholarship recipients for their achievements on April 30th, in the Performance Court of the UCR Regional Sports Center.

The Scholarship Awards Ceremony is an exciting event held each year to give public recognition to incoming, returning, and graduating RCTC students who were selected as scholarship recipients for their exemplary achievements. Scholarship awards totaling more than $280,000 were made based on a combination of factors, including financial need, demonstrated academic excellence, student life involvement, or social contributions. Over 350 family and friends of the recipients attended the ceremony to share this celebration with their student.

Scholarship donors also attended the ceremony to present awards and meet the students who benefited from their generous donations. Not many people can say they are contributing directly to the future quality of life in our community. But our scholarship donors can. They have made an investment in education which is the most direct method we know of insuring that a qualified workforce and an educated leadership will guide our community in the future.

Many community organizations, businesses and individuals continue to support higher education in Rochester by funding scholarships. As a result, several new scholarships were awarded this year.

- Bill Walker Memorial Scholarship
- Dalsbo Family Scholarship
- Darlene Rucker Memorial Scholarship
- Caroll L. Baruth Memorial Scholarship
- Greg Sellnow Journalism Memorial Scholarship
- Yvonne Romero Art History Scholarship
- Darlyne Podein Memorial Scholarship

Individuals and organizations interested in establishing a scholarship may contact Lisa Baldus, Executive Director of the RCTC Foundation at 507-281-7770 or by e-mail at lisa.baldus@roch.edu. The RCTC Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and all contributions are tax-deductible.

outreach >>>

New RCTC Student President Elected

RCTC Student Life is pleased to announce that the RCTC student body successfully elected a new Student President for the next academic term 2013-2014; Cody Pogalz.

Cody brings a wealth of experience to assist him in effectively leading and representing the student body. Cody is a US Army Medic, a RCTC Nursing major, and currently serves as the Armed Forces and Veterans Club President. Cody also serves as a Student Senator in the RCTC Student Senate. Please join us in congratulating RCTC Student President-Elect Cody Pogalz! You may contact Cody Pogalz at: CPogal131@mb.rctc.edu or at the Student Senate office (507) 285-7207

Facebook

Like us on facebook… we want to hear from you. Also, check out our upcoming events and let us know if you can join in the fun!

Facebook.com/RCTCFoundation

Homecoming Alumni Social Gathering

Calling all alumni! Whether you attended RJC, RSJC, RCC, RAVI, RAVTI, MRTC, RTC or RCTC, you're invited to mingle with fellow alumni, past and present staff and faculty. Join us for appetizers and refreshments to reconnect with former classmates or professors.

Saturday, September 21, 2013
4:30 p.m.—8:00 p.m. | Location: TBD

The event will once again feature **Outstanding Alumni Awards!** The award is given for distinguished and professional achievement and for bringing recognition to their alma mater through outstanding service and significant contributions to their community, state, and nation. Any former student, regardless of number of credits earned, may be nominated to receive this award. Recipients are nominated by alumni, emeriti, faculty and staff and selected by online voting. Vote for your favorite, RSVP to the event, and update your contact information by visiting our website after **August 1st** at: www.rctc.edu/foundation/alumni.

Nominate an Alum for this year's Outstanding Alumni Award at:
www.rctc.edu/foundation/html/Outstanding_Alumni.htm

Tea With Florence

Mark your calendar for the Nursing Alumni Networking Social. Specialty teas, cakes, and mini-sandwiches will be served. Prior to a fall fashion show there will be short period portrayal on the life of Florence Nightingale.

Sunday, October 6, 2013
2:00pm—Heintz Center Commons

New Alumni Members

The school year has passed us yet again and we've completed another amazing Commencement Ceremony. It is always exciting to see all of the happy graduates in attendance with their proud families and friends surrounding them.

On Thursday, May 16, the 96th annual Rochester Community and Technical College Commencement Ceremony was held in the UCR Regional Sports . It was truly a wonderful event and we were delighted to have over 385 of the eligible 1,054 candidates participate in the ceremony. We were also pleased to have 167 High Honor graduates and 142 Honor graduates.

RCTC's Commencement Ceremony is rich with tradition and dignity as we focus our full attention on the accomplishments of our graduates. The RCTC Foundation would like to congratulate all of our graduates on the culmination of many years of hard work and academic success. You are now ALUMNI . . . Please be sure to keep in touch! Join your class on Facebook today to stay connected with RCTC classmates and friends!

Fall German Fest FUNraiser

SAVE THE DATE!

Reserve September 27th on your calendar for the RCTC Foundation Fall German Fest FUNraiser. Additional details and registration information is available at www.rctc.edu/foundation or by calling the Foundation at (507) 281-7771.

Spring "FUN"raiser a Success!

The RCTC Spring "FUN"raiser held May 9, 2013 at Johnny Mango's Cabernet was a "HUGE" success! The event was oversold much to our delight and was held to raise money for operational expenses and scholarships for deserving students who might not otherwise have the resources to pursue higher education.

Mr. Randy Staver (City Council President) and Mr. Jim Bier (Olmsted County Commissioner) did a great job co-hosting and were quite hilarious on stage as the Chef's sidekicks. Mark Bilderback (City of Rochester) and Stephanie Podulke (County Commissioner) also attended and shared their support for the Foundation's work. We are also grateful to the Speech Department, Workforce Development Department, LIFE Program, Nursing Department, and the SPOOF (retired female faculty and staff) group that came to represent their areas of the college. Gail O'Kane (RCTC Interim President), Jim Gross (Academics VP), Michelle Pyfferoen (Dean), and Nirmala Kotagal (Dean) attended as RCTC Administration representatives. Dale Amy's (Strategic Planning Committee) wife Sonja, JoAnn Rosener, and Sharon Rosener did a wonderful job as unofficial ambassadors. The RCTC Foundation Treasurer, Jacob Peterson, welcomed the guests during the social hour and thanked them for attending. Linda Behrens (Past Foundation President) was there and helped promote the event to friends. President Don Supalla was able to stop in and spent time catching up with RCTC Foundation supporters that stayed behind to chat with him. We also want to thank Mike Malugani (Smith Schafer Accounting) for providing his staff for check-in; we looked very professional with two young accountants wearing suits welcoming our guests.

On behalf of our students, thank you for your investment in the future!

Learning Is ForEver 20th Anniversary

The RCTC Learning Is ForEver Program (LIFE) held its 20th Anniversary Gala on April 20th to benefit the LIFE Foundation Fund. The evening event featured a social gathering with a fun photo booth, silent auction, dinner and live entertainment.

Outstanding Educators

On April 17th, Taresa Tweeten and Mike Mutschelknaus were recognized as 2013 Outstanding Educators. The award is an honor bestowed upon Minnesota State Colleges & Universities faculty to acknowledge and reward exceptional individual professional accomplishment, and to encourage ongoing excellence, in teaching.

scholarships make a difference >>>

Dear Scholarship Donor:

Thank you very much for your generosity and for investing into my future. Words cannot express my gratitude. When I am able to do so, I will follow your example and invest in the lives of future generations.

Sincerely,
Kaitlyn—2013/2014 Scholarship Recipient

in the news >>>

Foundation Notes

June wraps up the fiscal year end for the RCTC Foundation. Great connections and memories were made and the RCTC Foundation found new ways to engage alumni and community. The Homecoming Outstanding Alumni Award Ceremony last September was a huge hit. This fall, it will be held at a larger venue due to last year's success. In the spring, the Foundation sponsored a themed dinner that was attended predominately by alumni and current faculty. Due to many phone calls asking us to host another themed party, we have planned an event for the fall. Through the alumni's willingness and desire to connect with other former students, the RCTC Foundation's Facebook presence steadily grew over the year.

June 28th, 2013 marked the last day of Don Supalla's sixteen year Presidency. The Faculty, staff, and students will miss him greatly. The RCTC Foundation, along with RCTC stakeholders, community members, and friends honored Don at a benefit in his honor. The RCTC Foundation Board of Directors expressed their sincere gratitude for Don's many years of service as the ex-officio Foundation board member representing the college. The RCTC Foundation Board of Directors is now looking forward to the new relationship that will be forged with Interim President Gail O'Kane.

Over the past fiscal year, three noteworthy financial successes were: the growth of the endowment by more than $400,000, the awarding of $230,546 in scholarships to hardworking RCTC students, and the raising of over $15,000 in funds for Clubs and Programs so students could participate in special seminars, classes, and Student Life activities.

Every gift large and small is deeply appreciated and makes a lasting impact on the life of a student. Please keep the RCTC Foundation in mind when making estate plans.

RCTC Foundation

Lisa Baldus—Executive Director

Contact us at **507-280-7771**

TTY Relay # **1-800-627-3529**

www.rctc.edu/foundation

lisa.baldus@roch.edu

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coming soon >>>

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RCTC is a member of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, a University Center Rochester Partner and an equal opportunity employer/educator.

Rochester Community and Technical College

RCTC Foundation
851 30th Avenue SE
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