

NORTHSTAR

50th Anniversary plans in full swing

COMING HOME

Three classes enjoy reunion celebrations in 2007

PRESERVING HISTORY

Larry Stewart pens The Seasons of Rochester College

GOING TO WORK

Alumnus Jon Horst puts his time in with the Detroit Pistons

Labor Day hos-
rites, tradition

Pe... opportunity
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beg... after lin... on Labor
start... with a p... at the ba
the... the hear...
only... day, instea
inclu... every...
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PICNICS give Ron Caporaso, Teresa Miller and
enjoy the warm outdoors.



1959

50

COMMITMENT TO
FAITH & LEARNING

2009

ROCHESTER COLLEGE

WCLC: Front Row: Victoria, Katie, Alex, Cori, Rachel, Wojtylak, Eulank, Ego, Anders. Second Row: Jervis, D...





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Rochester Hills, MI 48307
800.521.6010
www.rc.edu

Rochester College is an academic community characterized by the fellowship-creating reality of Christ's presence in the world.

The mission of Rochester College is to engage students in a vigorous liberal arts education within a Christian community for a life of study and service. Rochester College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and is a member of the North Central Association.

The mission of Northstar is to give glory to God by telling of his mercy, his blessings and his continued provision for Rochester College.

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FROM THE

president's

Our Board of Trustees has been very busy during this last year. Many goals have been set, and new officers have been elected. Each trustee serves Rochester College on a volunteer basis and works hard to shape the institution into a solid, academic institution of higher education within a Christian community. I am pleased to work with these men and women who care deeply about the spiritual and academic mission of Rochester College.

During the first week of July 2007, the board met in a pivotal meeting to plan for the future of Rochester College. At the end of the full day session, the Board of Trustees affirmed several qualities for which they want Rochester College to be known.

- A resource for churches
- A place that loves the Lord and loves young people
- A place that is an impeccable academic institution where scripture is discussed openly, without prejudice, no matter what the issue
- A place where Jesus is the focus
- A place in collaborative partnership with the community
- A place where liberal arts and high academic standards are present
- A place where students are presented growth opportunities that lead to employment and high standards and ethics
- A place that is building upon its heritage as a place where members of the Christian community will want to send their students
- A place where the study of the Bible and engagement with the text is inextricably intertwined with everything we do
- A place where alumni are successful personally and professionally and who remain invested in the college

These are certainly high goals and aspirations, but we at Rochester College, from the trustees to the employees, are determined to meet them. We will continue to look for better ways to serve the community, the church, and the academic needs of our students.

This issue has a focus on our approaching 50th Anniversary. However, as we look to the past, we also turn and look toward the future, a future that includes partnerships with the community, new exciting degree programs, and expanding infrastructure. Although challenges are ever present, we confidently march forward toward a strong future. Thanks for your help in getting us there!

Michael W. Westerfield, Ph.D.
President, Rochester College

50 years... and counting!

11-17 | Our anniversary celebration begins
in August, and a year's worth of



1959

50

COMMITMENT TO
FAITH & LEARNING

2009

ROCHESTER COLLEGE

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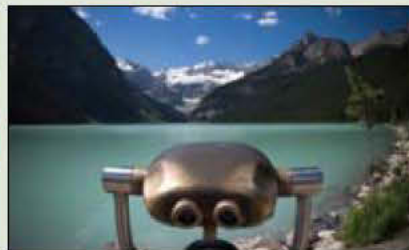
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ON THE COVER

Pages from several 1970s yearbooks show flashbacks into life at Michigan Christian College. Look carefully and you just might see a few familiar faces!

On this page, top, the entrance to the Maxon Estate, the first building on campus. Today it is Gallaher Center and houses admissions, financial aid, the business office, and the alumni music center!



Spring ahead with Rochester College

Our campus is stunning in the

MOVING FORWARD EVENT NEWS

RECAP:

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE OF HONOR DINNER

Contact: Elton Albright
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During the annual dinner held at the Royal Park Hotel in downtown Rochester on November 10, 2007, J. Robert (deceased) and Mary Utley of Rochester Hills were presented with the Philanthropy Award, which is also named after them. This award was established to honor those who are role models for sacrificial service and philanthropic generosity in support of the college. Those who receive the award must show strong commitment to the kingdom of God, the advancement of Christian higher education and the mission and vision of Rochester College. Each year the President's Circle of Honor dinner recognizes donors who contribute \$1000 or more along with the scholarship recipients. Next year's event will be held on November 1, 2008.



RECAP:

CHICAGOLAND CELEBRATION

Contact: Teresa Graney
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Rochester College had strong presence during the Chicagoland Celebration held on November 11, 2007 at the Tinley Park Convention Center in Tinley Park, Ill. The first-time event welcomed over 1600 people from 48 congregations within a 50-mile radius of downtown Chicago. It was the largest gathering of Churches of Christ in Chicago area history. The Chicago Celebration served as a pinnacle for diversity by drawing a diverse group of participants from black, white,

and Hispanic churches in the region as well as a spectrum of conservative to progressive churches. Leonardo Gilbert ('79), Sheldon Heights Church of Christ and Patrick Odum, Northwest Church of Christ served as keynote speakers.

MARCH 28-29, 2008

CELEBRATION

Contact: Stephanie Corp
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Celebration 2008, the annual student-directed, student-written song and dance extravaganza will celebrate a selection of award-winning Broadway hits. The 2-day event will be held in the RC Theatre on Friday, March 28 at 8pm and Saturday March 29 at 2pm and 8pm. Tickets are \$10 and will be available in the college business office beginning March 15 and at the door on the day of the performances. Visit www.rc.edu/celebration.

APRIL 10-13, 2008

SPRING PLAY:

who returned my soul

Contact: Catherine Parker
248.218.2154 or cparker@rc.edu

The theatre department presents *who returned my soul*, written by alumna Kelly (Galloway) Brock, who developed the story at the request of the Holocaust Memorial Center in Miami, Florida. The show depicts the testimonies of ten Holocaust survivors chronicling their life in concentration camps and fleeing Europe during World War II. The performance will be directed by Catherine Parker and is recommended for ages 12 and up. Tickets are available at the door or in advance through the business office by calling 248.218.2051.

APRIL 19, 2008

ELDERLINK 2008

www.acu.edu

The ElderLink ministry from Abilene Christian University has

a mission to equip, encourage and link those who lead and serve as elders in Churches of Christ through collaborative relationships, informative resources and shared learning opportunities. ElderLink will be at Rochester College on April 19, 2008. To register please visit www.acu.edu.



MAY 17, 2008

PARTNERSHIP DINNER

Contact: Elton Albright
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Robin Roberts, co-host of Good Morning America will be the keynote speaker for the 2008 Partnership Dinner. This fellowship dinner is for RC alumni, donors, constituents and friends and is the largest single annual fundraising activity to fund scholarships for RC students. The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the Royal Park Hotel in downtown Rochester. Tickets cost \$125. Sponsorship opportunities range from \$350–\$10,000. For more information, visit www.rc.edu/development.

MAY 19-21, 2008

RESOURCE! MINISTRY SEMINAR

Contact: Teresa Graney
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In the tradition of Sermon Seminar, RESOURCE! offers in-depth textual study with application to daily ministry. All are welcome as we explore the theme "Reading I Corinthians & Doing Christian Ministry." The featured presenter is Dr. Gordon Fee, professor emeritus of New Testament at Regent College

in Vancouver, B.C. Dr. Fee is a noted New Testament scholar, having published several books and articles in his field of specialization, New Testament textual criticism. Registration is \$180 for boarding and \$150 non-boarding. For more details and to register visit www.rc.edu/resource.

JUNE 22-28, 2008

ELEVATE SUMMER CAMP

Contact: Steve Corp
248.218.2180 or scorp@rc.edu
The theme for ELEVATE 2008, *Unashamed*, will encourage participants to move beyond regret and shame and embrace love and forgiveness. The summer camp is designed for students in grades 7 through 12. Shannon Williams, a worship leader from Columbus, Ohio, and Christian music artist Riley Armstrong are scheduled to appear. Early bird registration is \$175 before May 1 and \$200 after May 1. To register online visit www.rc.edu/elevate.

AUGUST 4, 2008

FLETCHER-SHINSKY GOLF CLASSIC

Contact: Teresa Graney
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The Annual Fletcher-Shinsky Golf Classic will return to Greystone Golf Club in Romeo, Mich. on Monday, August 4, 2008. Last year's event drew a record number of supporters raising nearly \$30,000 in scholarship money. A total of 145 golfers were in attendance. Former Michigan Christian College president Dr. Milton Fletcher administered the honorary tee shot to start the tournament. Fletcher was later presented with a 24-karat gold plated putter for his continued service and dedication to Rochester College. In addition, several sponsors donated items for the golf classic's first silent auction. To obtain a registration form for this year's golf classic call 248.218.2059.



AUGUST 21, 2008

ELIE WIESEL TO SPEAK ON CAMPUS

Contact: John Barton
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Professor Elie Wiesel is one of the most distinguished authors and public personalities of our era. A survivor of Auschwitz and Buchenwald concentration camps, he has authored more than 50 books and has used his position as author, teacher and storyteller to defend human rights and peace throughout the world. Wiesel has received numerous awards including the United States Congressional Gold Medal and the Nobel Peace Prize. On August 21, he will deliver a lecture entitled "The Power of Language for Reconciliation," thus kicking off both the 2008-2009 academic year and the college's 50th Anniversary Celebration. Tickets will be available to the public for purchase. Details are forthcoming. (Arrangements for Professor Wiesel made through the B'NAI B'RITH LECTURE BUREAU.).

SEPTEMBER 20, 2008

FALL FESTIVAL

Contact: Teresa Graney
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Fall Festival is a tradition started in 1960 by the Associates to provide a delightful day of fun on campus for college affiliates and the surrounding community. Attractions include live entertainment, food and merchandise vendors, "X-treme" events, games, prizes, children's area and appearances by city officials. For more information visit www.rc.edu/rcff.

NOVEMBER 1, 2008

HOMECOMING

Contact: Terrill Hall
248.218.2042 or thall@rc.edu
Homecoming will be held on Saturday, November 1, 2008. It is open to students, alumni, faculty/staff and friends. The all-day event features a tailgate party, games, prizes and food! The highlight of the event will be the Warrior and Alumni basketball games in the afternoon. The King and Queen will be crowned during halftime of the varsity game. Everyone is invited to attend the evening theatrical performance in the Richardson Center Theatre. Remember, alumni receive discount tickets!



NOVEMBER 1, 2008

LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON WITH MAX LUCADO

Contact: Teresa Graney
248.218.2059 or tgraney@rc.edu
Celebrated Christian author and minister, Max Lucado will be the featured speaker during a mid-day reception at the Royal Park Hotel in downtown Rochester on Saturday, November 1, 2008. Dubbed "America's Best Preacher" in 2005 by *Reader's Digest*, he is best known for such titles as *In the Grip of Grace* and more recently *Facing Giants*. He received a master's degree in Biblical studies from Abilene Christian University and serves as the senior minister of Oak Hills Church in San Antonio, Texas. Details about ticket pricing will be made available in the fall.

Coming home

Three generations of alumni celebrate the past during class reunions

by Kanette S. Worlds II



Class reunions are a time to reflect, exchange good news and laughs and sometimes shed tears. So what's the best part of going back to one's alma mater for a reunion?

"Seeing classmates and wondering how 'they' got to be so old," jokes Dean Moore, '62. Moore is one of nearly four dozen alumni who brought their families to the class reunions last summer. The class of 1962 joined the classes of '61 and '63 for a weekend-long celebration and journey down memory lane. Activities included dinners, devotionals, recreation, and a tour of the campus, which has undergone tremendous changes over the course of the college's history. Alumni from 1982-1983 and 1987-1988 also held class reunions in July.

A native of Pontiac, Moore now lives in Leesburg, Fla. with his college sweetheart, Mary Lois (Branstetter, '62). Both are currently retired and have three children and nine grandchildren. They last visited the campus five years ago for their 40th class reunion. Mary, who was born in southern Kentucky and raised in central Indiana, initially planned to enroll in David Lipscomb College.

"An acquaintance from a neighboring town told me about North Central College. I applied

Members of the class of 1977 enjoyed a beautiful fall reunion weekend during Homecoming in November; alumni from (left to right) 1982, 1962, and 1987 gathered on campus for their reunions in July. Here they are pictured taking a campus tour, posing with the beloved totem pole, and flipping through pictures from the past.

and was accepted. A representative of NCCC visited my home to talk with my parents and me about enrolling. One statement that he made was that if Church of Christ members who move from the south keep sending their children to colleges in the south, the churches in the north would have difficulty growing."

"My daddy left the decision to me. Inasmuch as both schools had accepted me and both had offered pretty much the same amount in scholarship money. I decided on NCCC based

on that statement and principle.”

Mary hasn't looked back since. She is proud to identify herself as a Warrior and glad to be able to call Rochester College her home. Being named Miss Michigan Christian College and singing with the chorus under the direction of “Fessor” Fred Alexander, who participated in the reunion via speaker phone, are just two of her favorite college memories.

“I was convinced to come to MCC by the Octet sent out in the summer of 1961 after my high school graduation,” explained Sharon (Simpson) Rice, '63. “I had such a good time with those eight people that by the time they left, I had been signed up for yearbook staff, chorus, and several other projects. I was very excited about the possibilities that lay before us at the brand new school.”

After graduating, Sharon married fellow alum Terry Rice '62, who passed away in 1992. Even though Sharon lives thousands of miles away in Washington State, she remains an active alumna as she recognizes the instrumental role that she and her classmates had as “pioneers” of the institution. The college had roughly 180 students during the year she attended, which from her perspective made everyone, including other students, staff, faculty, and administration one big family.

Twin brothers John and Ron Loshner met the first president, Dr. Otis Gatewood, during a recruitment visit at a Christian youth camp. John said they both jumped at the opportunity to attend a new, small Christian college. The brothers were involved in a variety of campus activities during their two years. As coordinator of the early '60s class reunions, John believes that “change occurs in all of us, but being together to sing, share, listen and reflect on how God has blessed us and Rochester College is something that is greatly enhanced only through a presence on campus.”

John counts playing basketball, making life-long friends, having Godly professors and living on “one of the most beautiful campuses anywhere,” among his fondest memories. “Without NCCC/MCC/now RC, I seriously doubt that I would have had the maturity to go on to complete either my degree or my doctorate,” says John. “I had never really studied before I attended the college, but soon I was faced with a ‘sink or swim’ decision. I truly look at my experience there as the ‘tipping point’ in my life, other than when I was baptized and met my future wife.”

Photos from the reunions can be downloaded and purchased from <http://photos.rc.edu/2007-08> by clicking on the **Alumni** link. Alumni interested in organizing future reunions should contact the alumni office at reunions@rc.edu and visit www.rc.edu/alumni. •

Class of '77 gifts College with all-new annual scholarship

1977.

Jimmy Carter had just succeeded Gerald Ford as the 39th President of the United States of America. Fleetwood Mac released their Grammy-winning record, *Rumours*. *Star Wars* was the highest-grossing movie of all time. Elvis Presley was dead. And, amidst all the change and tumult of the latter part of the 1970s, a special group of students were graduating from Michigan Christian College.

This year, as part of the Rochester College homecoming festivities, the class of '77 returned to the place they all called home for two years of their lives for their 30-year class reunion. To observe them, one would think they had never left, picking up conversations and relationships right where they left off. Smiles and laughter were the order of the day.

For many of them, it was their first time back to the campus since leaving. Obviously, the physical and educational landscape had changed quite a bit. There are new dorms, classrooms, and a library. When the class of '77 was here, Michigan Christian College only offered two-year programs. Open house was held just once a semester. Jeans were considered “progressive.” Men couldn't have facial hair. Shorts were taboo. Today, Rochester College is a four-year, fully-accredited liberal arts institution, and many of those other rules have evolved with time. However, one thing has remained a constant—the Christian outlook.

“It's all Kent Hoggatt's fault I'm here,” says Jill Skidmore. “I had already been accepted to another college and he came to my house, knocked on my door, and convinced me that MCC was the place for me. I prayed about it and ended up at MCC. Now, its 30 years later and this place still holds a special place in my heart.”

During the reunion, the class of '77 was treated to a light brunch and performances by Autumn and Focus, two of Rochester College's performance groups. Both groups were well-received, bringing back fond memories for Ed Rosenbaum.

“There used to be a girl who sang with Autumn... for the life of me I can't remember her name right now. But she sang the song 'I Want Jesus to Walk with Me' and this just

brought all of that back to me. The current group all did a good job, but I was especially impressed with the young man who was doing the vocal percussion [freshman Grant McClure],” Rosenbaum comments.

As part of the weekend reunion, the former students also enjoyed a walk down memory lane, with a plethora of memorabilia set up to view: yearbooks, old uniforms, pictures, and more. They also enjoyed a tour of their old stomping grounds to see how much things had changed, as well as how many things had stayed the same. After this, they enjoyed the Rochester College Homecoming basketball game where the Warriors bested Lambton College 71-52.

During the annual Scholarship Dinner held that evening at the Royal Park Hotel, class of '77 alumnus and president of the Rochester College Alumni Association Brenda Phillips delivered a rousing speech that brought tears to the eyes of her fellow classmates. She recalled one of her favorite professors and read a poem titled “Bits and Pieces,” which the professor used to read at the beginning and end of each semester. Phillips received a standing ovation.

“When you were at MCC, friendships were 24/7. That doesn't happen as easily once you've left college,” explains Ronda (O'Hearn) Rosenbaum. “It's a once in a lifetime experience.”

Because of the special place Rochester College holds in the hearts of the class of '77, they pooled their resources to offer the '77 Legacy Scholarship, which will be made available next school year.

“The class of '77 has always been a leading class. Traditionally, they've held their reunions during the summer, but they wanted to hold their 30-year reunion during homecoming to give their friends and family a sense of what Rochester College is like. One thing they've found is that the experience is the same whether the college is called North Central Christian College, Michigan Christian College, or Rochester College,” says Scott Samuels, associate vice president of development.

Dr. Gordon MacKinnon, a member of the class of '77, sums up the feelings of many in attendance. “When I was here I learned a lot from the faculty. They taught me what it means to be a leader. They taught me what it means to serve others. Today, I'm happy that my daughter is here at RC. Now she can share in that same experience.” •

College drafts all-star

Men's baseball and women's basketball among other sports to benefit from new and improved coaching staff

Brett Crawford joined Rochester College this fall as head baseball coach and assistant professor. Crawford earned a BBA in marketing and sports management from RC in 2005. He played for the Warriors baseball team for three years as a student where he was selected as a first team All-American and two-time Academic All-American. As captain of the baseball team during his senior season, he led the Warriors to their only USCAA College World Series appearances in 2003, 2004 and 2005.

Since graduating he has been an assistant baseball coach at Calvin College, a prospect camp coach for Indiana University and most recently an assistant baseball coach at Eastern Michigan University. In addition, Crawford is in the process of completing his MBA with the Isenberg School of Management at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst.

New Assistant Coaches

Assistant/Pitching Coach: Jim Kosmerick; Assistant Coach: Josh Masden
Recruiting Coordinator: Tom Kologek

Joel Schroeder is the new head coach of the women's varsity basketball team. Joel served as an assistant coach for the men's basketball team from 2003-2007. From 1999-2002 he was the head boy's varsity basketball coach at Bellvue High School. After earning All-League honors at Lapeer East High School in 1995, Schroeder played at Olivet College from 1995-1998, being named to the All-Tournament Team in 1998. He played his final college season (1998-1999) at Rochester College. In addition to his Rochester College coaching responsibilities, Schroeder is involved with basketball camps at Michigan State University, University of Toledo, and University of Wisconsin. He is also Sports Director at the North Oakland YMCA.

Athletic director Garth Pleasant says of Joel: "Joel is a real student of the game and has done a great job developing his coaching ability. We look forward to watching him build the women's program into a national contender."

OTHER NEW COACHES:

Women's Soccer

Head Coach: Rich Henderson; Assistant: Michelle Lewis; Assistant: Sarah Moulik

Men's Basketball

Special Assistant Coach: George Beaudoin; Assistant Coach: Nick Grabowski



Lake Norcentra Basketball Camp began in 1980 under the leadership of athletic director and men's basketball coach Garth Pleasant. Each year hundreds of kids, ages 6-17, learn the fundamentals of basketball and techniques on passing, dribbling, shooting and much more.

Approximately 750 students enrolled in the 2007 camp. They received a special treat with a visit from Zap and the Pistons Flight Crew.

Zap, the mascot for the WNBA's Detroit Shock, along with flight crew members Mike, Samer, Dan and Glen wowed the crowded gym with high-flying acrobatics and slam dunk routines using a trampoline.

Before the performance, campers were given a motivational speech by Pistons' crew member Aaron Smith. Smith shared important lessons he learned as a student athlete and encouraged the group to put education before sports. Smith also gave the students a chance to view one of the Pistons' championship trophies and rings as well as one of the Shock's trophies.

Lake Norcentra Basketball Camp operates for four weeks from mid-June through mid-July. For more information, contact the basketball department at 248.218.2135 or email gpleasant@rc.edu.



Rochester College places 2nd in USCAA Director's Cup competition

Rochester College placed second in the 2006-2007 Director's Cup competition hosted June 2-5, 2007 at the USCAA National Convention in Virginia Beach, Va.

The United States Collegiate Athletic Association Director's Cup honors member institutions that excel in a wide range of sports. The cup sets out to highlight the efforts of a single institution that produces an outstanding athletic program with diverse offerings and competes in national championships. Athletic director Garth Pleasant (pictured) was happy to accept the plaque for second place.

During the 2007 USCAA national soccer championship tournament the women's team placed second under the direction of first year coach Rich Henderson. The men's team won the 2006 tournament but succumbed to 5th place in 2007. Several players from both teams received All-American

Board of Trustees appoints new officers

Jim Randolph Chairman

- Elected to the Board of Trustees in January 1998
- Retired, Executive Director Global Business Services, Delphi automotive
- Graduate of Pepperdine University

Duane Harrison Vice Chairman

- Elected to the Board of Trustees in January 1992
- President and CEO of Utley Brothers, Inc.
- All three children are graduates of Rochester College
- Family has been involved for many years with the college and the Associates

Phil Herrington Treasurer

- Elected to the Board of Trustees in June 2005
- President and CEO of Herrington Inc., Little Rock, AR
- Served on missions committee supporting John and Sara Barton while they were in Uganda
- Graduate of Harding University

Ed Dickinson Secretary

- Elected to the Board of Trustees in October 1995
- Group General Manager, The Crown Group
- Graduated from Michigan Christian College in 1979
- Both sons graduated from Rochester College
- Family has supported the college for years—father



Library “edutains” students and the

The Ennis and Nancy Ham Library at Rochester College has become much more than a place for studying. Library director Allison Keller and her staff have created a learning environment that values both education and entertainment. Last February, the library organized a video game night that was well attended by students and staff. The following month, several participants engaged in a euchre tournament. Both game nights proved to be a great way to motivate students to visit the library.

Ham Library also successfully hosted an “Art in the Library” reception, which featured a discussion and display by two local artists. During the spring, the campus and surrounding community were treated to an exhibition of Mexican and African sculptures and ceramics donated by an area art teacher, which drew many outside visitors. Another key to promoting resources available in the library occurred during several used book sales held over the course of the year.

During the fall of 2007 the library displayed

a special traveling women’s exhibit (pictured above) called *Mothers, Daughters and Leaders of Oakland County*. The exhibit was sponsored by the Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm and showcased the accomplishments of several local women including the late Alma Gatewood, wife of former college president Otis Gatewood. More about Alma and the exhibit can be found in the Anniversary section on page 17.

The library also has been instrumental in spearheading a paper recycling program for the campus and the Avon Road community. Its staff has collected over 12,000 pounds of paper since the fall. The efforts of the recycling program led to a \$200 reward from the Abitibi-Consolidated company, one of the leading recyclers of newspapers and magazines in North America. The Library is currently working in conjunction with the Education Department to purchase library education books and audio visual materials with a \$9,000 grant from the Hess and Ponting Foundations.

Stay connected with e-news!

The Rochester College Development office has a brand new monthly e-newsletter that delivers news and information about the latest campus events.

Keep connected to the college by subscribing to the e-newsletter, where you will read about student life, alumni achievements, academic events, and campus activities such as theatrical and musical performances and workshops, seminars and keynote presentations.

If you have not been receiving the newsletter, send an email to news@rc.edu and let us know that you would like to be added to the mailing list. You can visit the RC News page at www.rc.edu/news.





College donates land and funds to preserve Clinton River

Last fall, Rochester College joined efforts with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and the Oakland Land Conservancy (OLC) to protect the beauty and natural land area on the campus that runs along the Clinton River.

The college donated an easement of land near what is referred to as Riverbend Park to the MDEQ, in addition to a \$7,500 check made payable to the Community Foundation of Southeastern Michigan. In September, the gift was presented to Donna Folland, executive director of the Oakland Land Conservancy. Folland and her staff will monitor and preserve the easement. Rochester Hills Mayor Bryan Barnett has been instrumental in this multi-year process and was present to witness this important collaboration between a private property owner and the OLC.

Pictured above, Rochester Hills Mayor Bryan Barnett and Oakland Land Conservancy executive director Donna



CEL graduate Cheryl Pettway proudly marches during her commencement ceremony.

The Center for Extended Learning (CEL) first opened its doors to the non-traditional student population on the campus of Rochester College in 1997.

Since its inception the center, which offers accelerated evening and weekend courses for working adults, has undergone tremendous growth. Within ten years the student body has grown from 40 students to an average that exceeds 500—more than ten times the initial enrollment.

One of the most instrumental factors in the program's popularity is its expansion across Southeast Michigan. CEL provides both classroom based and select online courses at four different locations including the main campus in Rochester Hills, Macomb Community College in Clinton Township, Mott Community College in Flint and most recently, Specs Howard School of Broadcast Arts in Southfield.

"Specs Howard School of Broadcast Arts provides exceptional technical training in the field of radio/video and Rochester College provides exceptional education with theory and scholarship. This creates a perfect relationship for any student desiring a degree in mass communication," explains Christopher Davis, director of enrollment for CEL.

The mass communication degree incorporates a broadcast concentration giving students full access to Specs' state-of-

the-art broadcast equipment including video cameras, a recording studio and radio station.

The reputation of the Southfield campus continues to attract prospective students and gain the attention of employers, so much that CEL recently opened two additional classrooms to accommodate the growth.

"We added two more classrooms including a computer lab for specialized software courses. It is definitely an exciting time for CEL and Rochester College," said Davis.

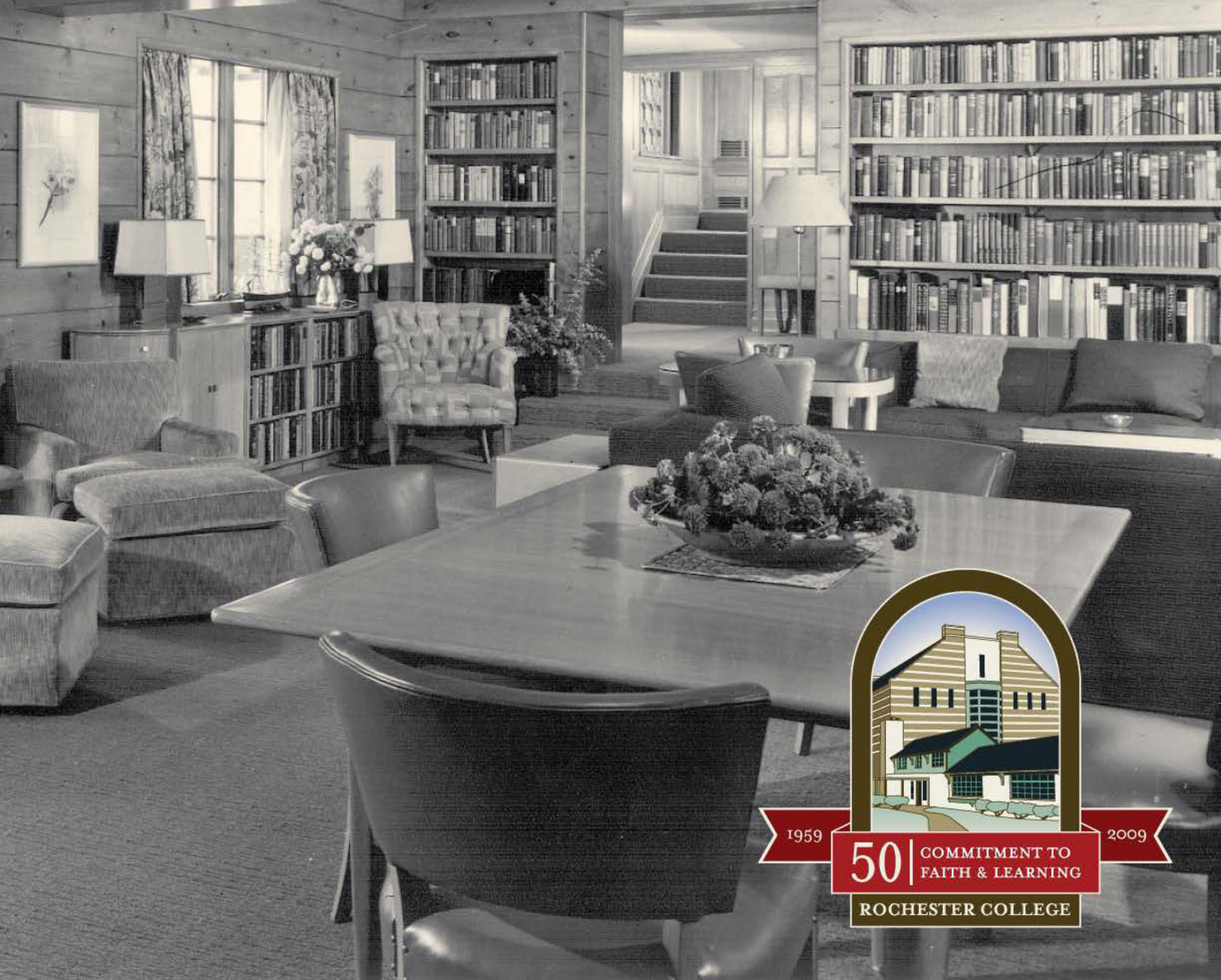
In addition to mass communication, students may also pursue degrees in business management, organizational leadership and communication, biblical studies, counseling psychology, early childhood studies, as well as an associate of arts degree. Last year, CEL began offering tracks in public relations, human resources and marketing.

For many, the appeal of the CEL program is the flexible schedule and accelerated 8-week sessions. Students can maintain full time status by attending class twice a week. Being a small Christian institution sets the program apart by placing a higher level of emphasis on ethics according to Davis.

"We are bridging the gap between ethics, employees, and employers. Being a smaller institution, we excel at our level of personalized student service," Davis adds.

To learn more about CEL visit the website at www.rc.edu/cel.

Our Golden Anniversary



1959

2009

50 | COMMITMENT TO
FAITH & LEARNING

ROCHESTER COLLEGE

Celebrating 50 Years of Leadership

Rochester College is built upon a firm foundation laid by hundreds of individuals over the past five decades. Outstanding among these individuals are the men who have served this college as president. Here, some of the most significant developments to occur during their tenures are highlighted.



Otis Gatewood
1958 - 1964

- 1959** North Central Christian College opens
Associates Campus Center completed
- 1960** First addition to Science Building
Palmer Hall completed
- 1961** Name changed to Michigan Christian Junior College
Second addition to Science Building
Barbier Hall completed
Cafetorium completed
- 1962** Third addition to Science Building
- 1963** First Homecoming
Gymnasium completed
State accreditation achieved
- 1963** Gold Room completed



E. Lucien Palmer
1964 - 1971

- 1964** Alumni Association formed
Gierok farm purchased
- 1965** Muirhead Center completed for student center and library
- 1966** Lower level of bookstore completed
NCA correspondent status achieved
- 1969** NCA candidate status achieved
- 1970** Gatewood Hall completed



Don Gardner
1971 - 1978

- 1972** First Partnership Dinner held in gymnasium
- 1973** Autumn formed
NCA accreditation achieved
- 1975** Enrollment exceeds 300 for first time
- 1977** Associates millionth dollar donated
Accreditation reaffirmed
Third-year Bible program added
Associate in Applied Science degree added
- 1978** Westside Auditorium completed
Upper level of Bookstore completed for student center



Members of the class of 1962 have launched a drive to raise funds for restoration of the totem pole. From the opening of the college in 1959 until 1997, the totem pole graced the island in the center of Lake Norcentra.

Since 1997, the totem pole has been located in the yard of the Shinsky family. Coach Shinsky repaired and repainted the totem pole before his death in 2004, but weather has continued to severely damage the campus symbol. While visiting the campus for their 45th anniversary, the class of 1962 expressed an interest in restoring the totem pole. Bids were obtained, and an artisan in northern Michigan was selected to carefully fill in all rotted areas, replace missing parts, and paint the figure to look as much as possible like the original.

For the actual restoration process, \$16,500 must be raised. The class has targeted a goal of \$25,000 in order to also provide funding for a huge showcase that will display the totem pole and historical uniforms in the lobby of the future athletic center. Within days of announcing their campaign, members of the class and some of their professors provided lead gifts totaling over \$3,000.

While the class of 1962 is taking the lead in raising funds for this project, assistance from other alumni is crucial. If you would like to contribute to this special project, you may send a check to Larry Stewart, Rochester College, 800 West Avon Road, Rochester Hills, MI 48307. The check should be designated as a contribution toward the totem pole fund. For questions, you may contact Dean Moore, the class of 1962 campaign director, at deanmoore14@embarqmail.com or Larry Stewart at lstewart@rc.edu.



Walter Gilfilen
1978-1980

- 1978 Bachelor of Religious Education degree approved by state
Name changed to Michigan Christian College
- 1979 Gymnasium annex completed
New campus master plan unveiled



Milton B. Fletcher
1980-1991

- 1980 Bachelor of Religious Education degree approved by NCA
- 1982 Wang VS-80 purchased for campus-wide use
- 1983 Business programs added at associates degree level
Accreditation reaffirmed
- 1987 Second millionth dollar donated by Associates
Third year added to business program
- 1989 Accreditation reaffirmed
Counseling major added to B.R.E. program



Kenneth L. Johnson
1991-2004

- 1993 Bachelor of Business Administration degree approved
- 1996 Bachelor of Science degree approved
- 1997 Name changed to Rochester College
Center for Extended Learning launches
Ferndale/Hoggatt Hall completed
- 1998 Enrollment exceeds 500 for first time
- 2000 Enrollment exceeds 800 for first time
- 2001 GEO international studies program initiated
- 2002 Bachelor of Arts degree approved
Ham Library completed
- 2003 Enrollment exceeds 1000 for first time



Michael W. Westerfield
2004-present

- 2004 Richardson Center completed
- 2005 Master of Religious Education approved
- 2006 College authorized to recommend teachers for certification

- August 19, 2008 Opening Convocation
- August 21, 2008 Elie Wiesel Event
- September 20, 2008 Fall Festival
- October 2008 Associates Annual Meeting
- November 1, 2008 Luncheon with Max Lucado
- November 1, 2008 Homecoming
- November 2008 Fall Musical and Drama Reunion
- December 4, 2008 Chicagoland Dinner

- Choral Festival
- February 2009 Music Department Showcase
 - March 2009 Associates Spring Fashion Show
 - March 2009 Celebration in Song
 - April 4, 2009 Partnership Dinner
 - April 2009 Academic Symposium
 - April 2009 A Cappella Chorus Reunion
 - August 3, 2009 Fletcher-Shinsky Golf Classic
 - September 2009 Fall Festival
 - September 28, 2009 Grand Finale Celebration

January 2009 Christian College

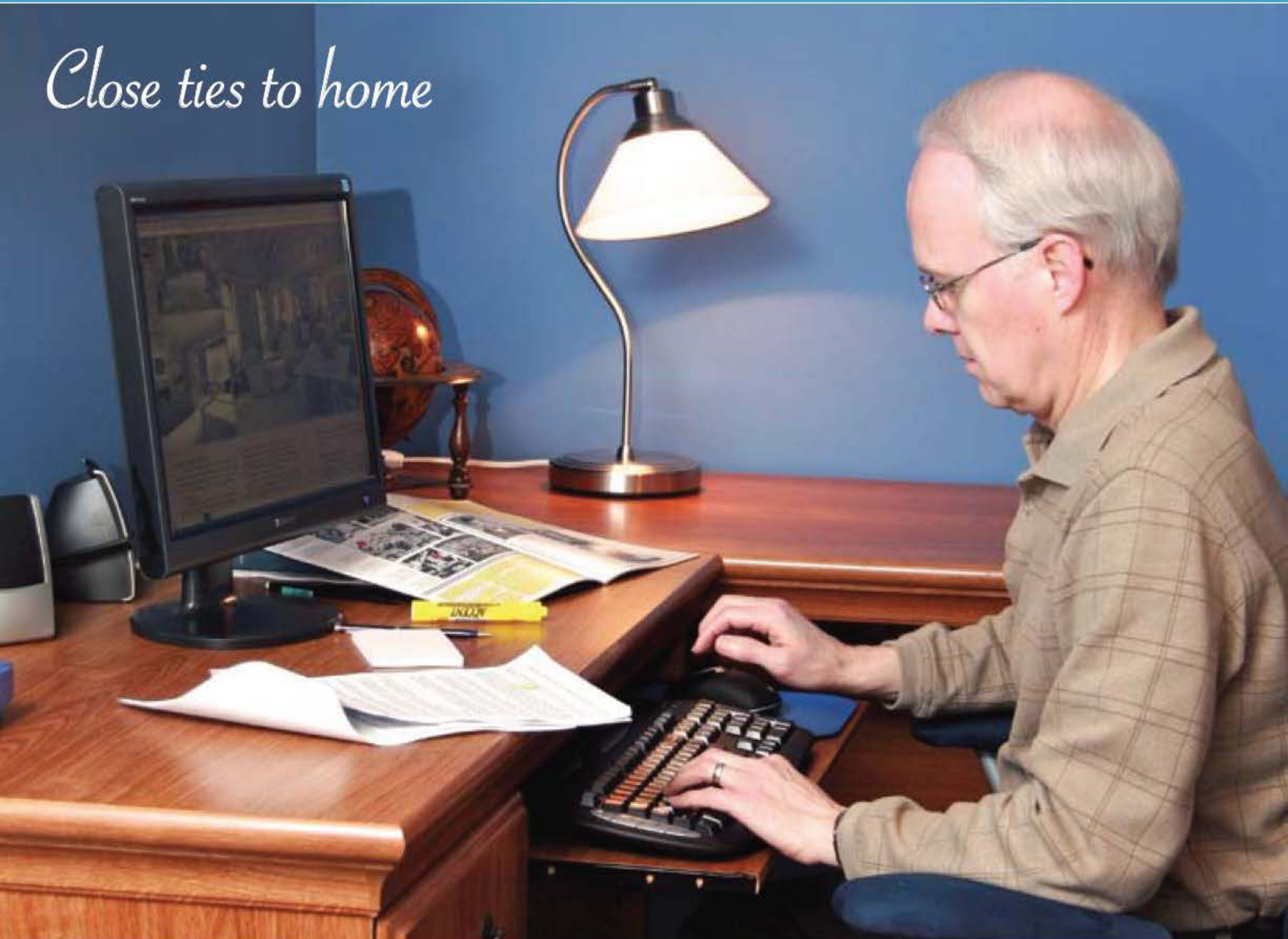
Heritage Series CD

You may now order copies of any recordings produced since 1962 by the A Cappella Chorus, Autumn, and Spectrum. Re-mastered on compact discs, this series allows you to replace old recordings or to purchase recordings that were originally produced on vinyl records, 8-track tapes, and cassette tapes.



View the full listing of 57 recordings on-line at www.rc.edu/bookstore or call 800.521.6010, extension 5.

Close ties to home



This college is my life," said Larry Stewart emphatically during a recent interview.

Stewart has spent nearly forty years of his life on Avon Road—two years as a student and 36 years as an employee. His office, tucked away on the ground level of the campus bookstore, offers one of the most scenic views of the campus. One of the walls is almost entirely consumed by a sliding glass door that overlooks Lake Norcentra and a picturesque wooded backdrop.

Several photos align the opposing walls depicting various scenes reflecting campus life. The most endearing photo is of his two children Kevin ('04) and Beth ('02) as toddlers rustling in the fall leaves with their hands on their chins. "Photography was a hobby at

one time, but I eventually got burned out," he admits. Despite wearing multiple hats in his current position as director of alumni information and bookstore manager, his office is immaculate. Every single piece of paper, book and ornament has a place. He attributes his impeccable sense of organization to a "personality quirk."

Stewart grew up in the small town of Corunna, Mich. located 20 miles west of Flint. His father owned a shoe store where all six children and even his grandmother were employed. He was in fifth grade when he began working for the store and continued well into his college career, a probable explanation for his strong sense of dedication. Three of his siblings, Bob ('68), Janie ('71) and Ken ('82), attended Michigan Christian College along with three of his nieces and

nephews. Stewart was the second sibling to attend MCC when he enrolled in 1968. He completed the two year program in 1970 and went on to receive his bachelor's degree in Bible from Harding College.

He returned to MCC in 1972 under the leadership of President Don Gardner as an admissions counselor, campus photographer, residential supervisor, yearbook advisor and editor/designer of campus publications. A year later he was appointed director of admissions and over the years has served under five of seven college presidents as director of public relations, Bible and journalism teacher, and chorus tour manager, among other things. "I've experienced 80% of Rochester College's history," he explained. "I was also here during the 10th anniversary celebration."



Taking a stand for alumni

In each anniversary issue of *Northstar*, we profile an outstanding alumnus from one decade. Last issue, we featured Jerry Burns from the 1960s. Representing the '70s is Alumni Association president Brenda Phillips.

encouraged her to pursue a degree in business education. Since then, she has spent her entire career in the field of human resources, having worked for such corporations as Consumer's Energy and Volkswagen of America.

Heavily involved in activities at MCC, including the Alpha Chi social club and cheerleading, Brenda believes three specific experiences affected her more than any others: chapel, Thursday night devotionals, and dorm life.

"Chapel was my favorite time of the day because everyone was together. It was both uplifting and entertaining. During

was very involved in campus life. It wasn't unusual to find him in the Campus Center lobby between or after classes just hanging out with the students. He would start every class with a prayer or read a passage from his favorite book, *God Is No Fool*. I still have that book, and think of him every time I pick it up."

Brenda cherishes every relationship she made while a student at MCC. This has prompted her to teach others not to take friendships for granted. "Actually, I'm sure that I didn't learn that lesson until after I left MCC. It didn't take me long, though, to realize that those friendships were special. That hit home with me when we had our 30-year reunion in November. Being with those people again really felt like coming home."

Having been involved with the Alumni Association for over 20 years, Brenda believes she has invested a lot of time and emotion into the organization. However, as the years

time of the day because everyone was together. It was both uplifting and entertaining. During Thursday night devotionals there were usually 50-60 students who would sit in a circle on the floor with the lights dimmed. The singing was beautiful. Sometimes it would just go on and on because we didn't want to stop," says Brenda. And when it came to dorm life, Brenda warmly reminisces about "staying up late talking and laughing, studying in the hallway, and singing Linda Rondstadt songs into our curling irons and hairbrush 'microphones.'"

Activities always connected Brenda with people. Ultimately, every experience was intimately tied to the spirit of community that has been the hallmark of Rochester College since its inception 50 years ago. "Mrs. [Carolyn] Franklin pushed me to do more than I thought I could, and helped me begin to develop a sense of confidence in myself. Mr. [Ken] Franklin



Brenda Phillips in the 1977 Totem Pole yearbook

Brenda Phillips ('77) was born and raised in Midland, Michigan, the seventh of eight children (four boys and four girls). The size of her immediate family should come as no surprise when one takes into consideration the size of her extended family. "My dad has 12 siblings and most of them lived within walking distance, so I grew up with lots of cousins, aunts, uncles and grandparents," says Phillips. As a matter of fact, attending Michigan Christian College from 1975-1977 after graduating from Midland High School was a natural choice for Brenda because so many of those family members had called the college home before her.

"My three older sisters had attended MCC, as well as a number of my cousins. When my sisters were at MCC I would visit on the weekends with my parents. Everyone was always so friendly and nice. It made a big impression on a quiet, shy 11-year-old. I thought it was cool that everybody seemed to know each other," Brenda fondly recalls.

Starting out in the secretarial science program, which Brenda now believes sounds utterly antiquated, she planned to get a job directly after leaving Rochester. But as providence would have it, during her freshman year, two of Brenda's teachers



*Alma Morgan
Gatewood
1908-1963*

Mother, daughter, and leader of Oakland County

By Jennifer Hamilton

Alma Morgan Gatewood was born on December 28, 1908 in Abilene, Texas. Her convictions and upbringing in a religious family were apparent in the way in which she lived her life. Her sense of mission was evident through her vocation. She attended Harding College and Abilene Christian College, graduating cum laude in 1933. During her college career, she was a member of the Girls Training Club and the “W” Club, a women’s honor society. She became a teacher, instructing classes in Abilene and Merkel, Texas for ten years.

She married Otis Gatewood, a minister, while she was teaching. Their ministerial commitment to education took them many places such as Las Vegas, New Mexico, Utah, and Frankfurt, Germany. The Gatewoods were among the first missionaries into Germany following WWII. They brought \$1 million worth of supplies to the residents of Frankfurt. In 1958, the Gatewoods were called to help establish North Central Christian College, now Rochester College.

During her four years of work with NCCC, Alma founded the “Women’s Associates,” a group of women concerned with raising funds for the college. Initially, the Associates funded library acquisitions, but this expanded to include building renovations, debt retirement, equipment, student scholarships, music equipment, and costumes. Upon her death on January 18, 1963, funds were dedicated to the Alma Gatewood Memorial Fund. The monies in the Memorial Fund helped build a women’s dormitory in her honor. The support of the students and academics by the Associates continues today.

The Associates currently have a membership of 700 women who are organized into 15 chapters throughout Michigan and Ohio. In the history of the organization, these women have raised over \$4,408,000 to support the mission and vision of Rochester College.

For her contributions to the Rochester Hills community, Alma was selected to be a part of a traveling exhibit called “Mothers, Daughters and Leaders of Oakland County,” created by the Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm. The exhibit consists of three areas: the biographies and photographs of 17 outstanding Oakland County women; “Leaders from our Community” which allows visitors to add their own nominations to the exhibit; and “Women through the Ages” that features a timeline of women’s historical events from a national and state level. The display appeared in the Rochester College Ham Library from August 22—October 1, 2007 (see photograph on page 9).

passed, she had begun to feel association didn’t have a clear direction or purpose, and was not doing as much as it could to engage alumni. Then, in 2005, the college hired a full-time alumni director. Brenda took this to mean that Rochester College believed in the importance of developing an active alumni community and was willing to commit the resources necessary to help make that happen. She views the next few years as a “rebuilding” phase for the Alumni Association, conducting reunions—of which Brenda’s class has had four—to focus efforts on providing opportunities for alumni to interact. “We’ve identified areas of the country where there are fairly large alumni populations and plan to visit several of those locations to host informal social gatherings. Our first such gathering will be a barbecue in Dallas on April 12, and we hope to draw alumni from the Dallas/Abilene/Houston areas. We’ll also continue to participate in Fall Festival, an event which not only attracts a large number of alumni, but also provides an excellent fundraising opportunity with the steerburger booth.”

Brenda believes there is nothing better than spending time with “old” friends because of shared experiences and memories, even if their time at Rochester College took place more than 20 years apart.

“Rochester College holds a special place in my heart. I want it to be around for a long time so that other young people can have the opportunity to experience some of the special moments I did when I was a student. Being at the college gave me exposure to a group of people and unique situations that I had never experienced before. I was able to see people outside of my family living out their faith every day, and their example inspired me to try and do the same. That had a huge impact on me.”

Those of us who traverse the halls of Rochester College today echo Brenda’s sentiment, and hope we too are building friendships to be forever cherished.

Brenda Phillips currently resides in Clarkston. She attends Rochester Church of Christ and works as the HR systems and research manager for Mott Community College in Flint. •

Anniversary Planning Committee

A special committee has been formed to plan all of the events for the Anniversary Celebration. If you have any thoughts, questions, or

ideas regarding these events, contact one of the committee members listed below:

Klint Pleasant
Committee Co-Chair

Larry Stewart
Committee Co-Chair

Elton Albright

Bryan Barnett

John Barton

Joe Bentley

Stephanie Corp

Bruce Foulk

Teresa Graney

Terrill Hall

Julie Harper

Scott Samuels
Committee Co-Chair

Cathy Ries
Committee Secretary

Mark Johnson

Robert Martin

Larry Norman

Brenda Phillips

Garth Pleasant

1972

JUDY IRENE PITT has moved to Durango, CO, at the beginning of Durango Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad. It is one of the most scenic steam engine trips in America and has been in operation since the 1880's. Judy lives at 1401 E. 3rd Ave., Durango, CO 81301.

1983

DAYTON BLAKE and his wife Joyce returned from China on July 4, 2007 with their newly adopted daughter Esther. Esther was born on September 13, 2006, but the Blakes did not receive her until June 25, due to an adoption process of 27 months. Updates can be found at the family's website at www.chinablakes.com. The family lives at 1264 Merrycrest Dr., Memphis, TN 38111.

1985

BECKY (BLAKE) EUBANKS and her husband Blake welcomed their daughter Lydia Rebekah on June 27, 2007. Lydia joins sisters Elisha and Gabriele and brothers Elijah, Micah and Judah. The family lives at 1216 Sorrento Lane, Flint, MI 48507.

1986

JAMIE (CLARK) STARLING completed her master's degree in teaching on May 12, 2007. She graduated summa cum laude. Jamie and her husband, **MARK STARLING**, live at 11305 W. Gates St., Bruce Township, MI 48065. They have one daughter, Megan.

1987

MICHAEL AND SANDI (JONES) WALLACE have returned to Walt Disney World Co. Michael is a safety and health technical administrator and Sandi is a communication specialist. They live with their son, Parker, at 1051 Home Grove Dr., Winter Garden, FL 34787.

1989

LAURA (DAY) LEACH and her husband Rick have welcomed their newest addition, Elijah Jack. He joins big sister Olivia. Laura is a stay-at-home mom and Rick is in his 10th year as youth minister for the Northside Church of Christ. The family lives at 3304 Utica Sellersburg Rd., Jeffersonville, IN 47130.

1990

Nicole Renee joined Brett and Sean Lewis in the home of Gino and **KRISTY (BENTLEY) DEHERRERA** on July 18, 2006. The family lives at 15345 S. Constance, Olathe, KS 66062.

1991

SCOT WEST was invited to be a member of Ohio University's Professional Actor Training Program. He will spend the final year of the program performing with the Tony Award-winning Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park and will graduate in 2010 with his M.F.A.

DAWN (DICKEY) MANNON has returned to grad school at Arizona State. She is in her second year of work towards a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Degree and is currently a clinical supervisor at Phoenix Children's Hospital. She and her husband Greg have been married four years. They live at 18617 N. 20th Way, Phoenix, AZ 85024.

ERIC (92') AND SUSAN (LAMBERT) SEELIG welcomed Erica Kathleen on Dec. 21, 2007. She joined proud sisters Jessica (13) and Haleigh (8). The family lives at 829 8th St., Wyandotte, MI 48192.

1992

RANDY AND KIM (PLEASANT, '93) SPECK welcomed their second child, Lainey Hope, on June 13, 2007. Randy is the superintendent for Oakland Christian Schools and Kim is a Psychologist at Treeside Psychological Center. The family lives at 434 Franklin Lake Circle, Oxford, MI 48371.

1993

John and **KATIE (MITCHELS) HAFERKAMP** welcomed Kaylee Lauren on March 19, 2007. The family lives at 1754 N. Lofgren Rd., Rolling Prairie, IN 46371.

1994

DAVID PENN received his second master's degree from St. Xavier University in Chicago in May 2007. He matriculated with honors in educational administration and supervision. His first master's degree is in curriculum and instruction from City University in Bellevue, WA. David currently serves as dean of students at Richard T. Crane Tech Preparatory High School in Chicago, IL, and aspires to become a secondary principal. He and his wife Brenda received their first granddaughter, Rian Danielle, in January 2007. They live at 18629 Amlin Circle, Country Club Hills, IL 60478.

JASON CONLEY finished his master's degree in business administration in May 2007. After ten years at work with an orthopedic manufacturer, he recently accepted an opportunity with Silveus Insurance Group.

1995

CHRIS CHAFFIN and his wife Jessica welcomed Hailey Ophelia on August 4, 2007. The family lives at 26313 Princeton, St. Clair Shores, MI 48081. ▶

Jon Horst shines in the Detroit Pistons organization

by Kanette S. Worlds II

God does not care about perfection—he cares about direction!”

This, according to Jonathon Horst ('06), was the greatest lesson he learned as a student at Rochester College in Dr. John Barton's New Testament class. Horst was born and raised in the city of Sandusky in an area known as the thumb of Michigan. He was recruited to play basketball at Rochester College during his senior year at Sandusky High School and accepted the invitation in 2002 based on merit.

“I wanted to play basketball at a school that had a winning tradition and would help me create professional opportunities for my future,” he says. “Academically I wanted to attend a school where I could interact with the teachers and students on a personal level. I did not want to be associated with my school by an I.D. number.”

Horst was a member of the men's basketball team for four years and occasionally volunteered with the mission outreach group I.M.A.G.E. He had the good fortune of being on back-to-back national championship men's varsity teams as a sophomore and junior. “My sports experience at RC had an extreme impact on me. While playing basketball I learned nothing comes easy and that work ethic, character, and morals can take you a long way, whether they are positive or negative.”

During Horst's last year of college, Detroit Pistons vice president of basketball operations John Hammond was looking to fill an internship position in his office. Coach Garth Pleasant connected Horst to Hammond, which landed him in a one year part-time position that eventually became a full-time job in June 2007. Horst is now the manager of basketball operations for the Pistons and putting his BBA in sports management to good use.

“My education at RC has had a major impact on my career today. The sports management classes allowed me to apply the concepts and ideas that I learned into everyday work situations and allowed me to be better prepared in my current job.”

Self-described as a “highly motivated person with a lot to learn,” Horst admits

that working for the Pistons is a dream come true. “From a young age I have had a passion and obsession with basketball. I always wanted to work in sports—specifically basketball—for my career. What better way for a Michigan man to be involved in basketball than to work for the Detroit Pistons?”

Horst adds that the basketball operations staff, coaching staff, and players that make up the Detroit Pistons are the finest, most professional people imaginable. “I believe while in college I played for one of the classiest, professional, well behaved, and hardest working teams in college basketball. I believe a man of high integrity, who leads with a strong work ethic, coached us and led his players to success. I say that because I also believe the Detroit Pistons organization is led by the same type of people who have the same beliefs, and it all starts with Joe Dumars, president of basketball operations.”

On a personal note, Horst says he puts God first, his wife Mia (Dinnan, '05) second, family and friends third and basketball shortly after. In his spare time he enjoys watching his wife coach her JV basketball team, hanging out with his friends and attending the Rochester and Lake Orion Churches of Christ.

When asked what he hopes to accomplish in his career, Horst replied, “I have received a lot of good advice from many people who have succeeded in this career field. Maybe the best was just, ‘I hope to survive.’ So what do I hope to do? I hope to survive. I would love to be involved with the NBA and Detroit Pistons for as long as possible, and I would love to provide for my family by working in the game I love every day.”

“If I am able to succeed and survive in the world of the NBA long enough, I will eventually retire and would then like to work at a high school and coach young men in the game of basketball. I also hope that someday Mia and I will be able to go to Africa and do mission work... and I'm sure I can figure out a way to have the NBA and basketball be involved in that mission work,” he jokes. •

One of Jon's daily responsibilities is to update these boards, which track every player on every team in the NBA. This keeps the Pistons aware of all positions, salaries, and trades at a moment's notice.

1996

BRAD IRWIN and his fiancée, Tracy Smith, plan to wed in Rochester on October 4. Brad is now director of corporate relations and special events for Habitat for Humanity in Oakland County. He lives at 3115 Coolidge Hwy. Apt. #128, Royal Oak, MI 48073.

MELANY JONES accepted a new position as vice president in information technology at Comerica Bank. She has been with Comerica since 1996, and lives at 865 Lido, Rochester Hills, MI 48307.

WAYNE AND DONNA (OAKLEY) POE welcomed Briana Kay on July 14, 2007. Briana joins siblings Summer LaFay and Allen Johnson. The family lives at 4290 E. 175 N., Lagrange, IN 46761.

LEA ANNA (MUSKIN) WHITFIELD and her husband Brian welcomed Kinsey Caroline on August 29, 2007. She joins big brother Emerson. The family lives at 935 E. Browning Ave., Hazel Park, MI 48030.

1997

STEVE MEANS, his wife Jackie, and their daughter Paige have moved back to the USA. Paige Qi was adopted in August 2006 while the Means' were working in China. Steve is employed by Martin Insurance Agency and is currently working toward becoming the agency manager. The family lives at 1803 Sterling Oaks Dr., Sellersburg, IN 47172.

After working at the Farragut Church of Christ in Tennessee for 2.5 years, **PHILIP BRACKNEY**

The write

Marty Kindall puts a passion for romance into writing

by Amanda Passage

For most of her life, alumna Marty Kindall felt as though her interest in writing would only ever be a hobby. She never dreamed she would become a published author with a portfolio of short stories and historical romance novels.

Born and raised in Columbus, Ohio, Kindall developed an interest in reading, music and art at an early age. She read all the time and couldn't get her hands on enough books. "Judy Blume was my favorite author as a young girl and I was always at the library. At some point, I thought, 'I could write something like that,'" Kindall said.

She began writing her own stories at the age of ten, mostly to entertain herself. In college, she realized that she didn't want to study English and began focusing her studies towards art and history. Kindall attended Michigan Christian College from 1989-1991, pursuing an associate of arts degree. After graduation, she enrolled at Harding University in Arkansas where she earned a bachelor of arts in social science in 1993 and a master of science in education in 1994. She went on to attend the University of North Carolina-Charlotte and

In addition to coaching, Kindall worked as a recruiter in the admissions office until the spring of 1997. "The group I worked with believed we could recruit students who were a good fit for the college, who wanted to take the school into the future, who wanted a chance to be leaders and change the face of what was at that time—a small college with limited resources. We, and they, saw what Rochester College could become and wanted to be a part of that vision," she explains.

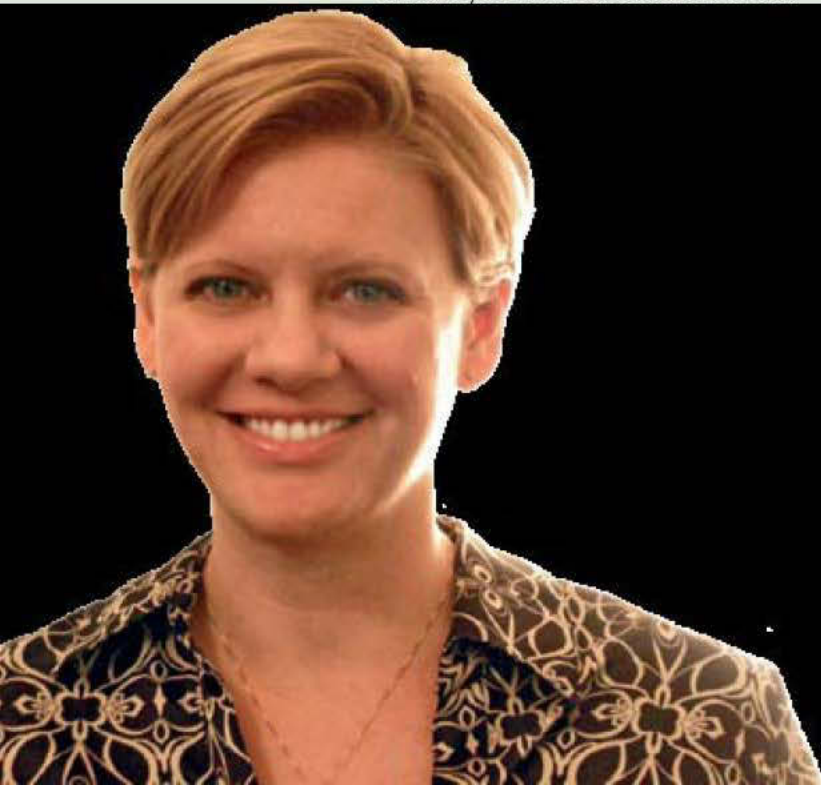
Ten years after moving to Charlotte, North Carolina, Kindall began using her free time to make writing a priority. After finding a few workshops and friends to help her refine her skills, she felt confident enough to look for a place to publish her stories. Kindall's portfolio now consists of short stories entitled "A Cook in the Family" and "A Kiss on the Wind," as well as novels *The Knot* and *Bootlegger's Bride* and various articles. Kindall's newest novel, published last fall, is a "sweet" romance set in 1948 and titled *All in Good Time*.

"All the works I have with The Wild Rose Press are set in the same small town in the North Carolina mountains, so the storylines intertwine. My newest work in progress is a romance novel set in ancient Rome, a new direction for me, and I'm having a good time with it. I love history and I love to write, so what better way to put the two elements together?" said Kindall.

Kindall strives to live an honest life with openness toward new experiences. "I want my stories to reflect the same kind of attitude. I write about real people that readers can connect with and care about, not some lofty perfection that's impossible to achieve. Like everyone, my characters make mistakes, suffer the consequences, and work through difficult times with real emotions. They aren't perfect, but they strive to grow and learn, and to create something better for themselves and those around them. I still write mostly for my own entertainment. I'm just lucky readers seem entertained as well," she said.

Kindall works as an administrator at the Art Institute of Charlotte, where she is also the resident history instructor. Her dream is to write full-time and teach history on the side. When she is not writing, Kindall enjoys entertainment, music, movies and sports. When time permits, she also enjoys long trips or short excursions to the beaches and mountains of North Carolina.

Kindall, similar to other authors of today, reaches her audience through Myspace, Yahoo!360 and Bebo. For more information visit her website, www.martykindall.com. •



is now the youth and family minister at the Trenton Church of Christ in Trenton, MI. His family's new address is 26843 Inverness St., Woodhaven, MI 48183.

1998

Miriam Grace joined Donald, Josiah, Samuel, Philip, and Abigail in the home of Brian and **CARRIE (PIER) ELLERBROCK** on February 18, 2007. The family lives at 15855 Road B., Leipsic, OH 45856.

PAUL ROBAK and his wife, Jenny, welcomed their third child, Elliana Hope, on October 26, 2007. Paul works with Walter's Financial Group. The family lives at 422 Salus Dr., Waterford, MI 48327.

1999

YOLANDA (CRITES) FETT has moved to Fort Wayne, IN. She works as a special education teacher at Crestview Middle School and her husband, DJ, works for W.A. Sheets and Sons, a commercial contractor. They have two sons, Noah and Xavier.

2000

ASHLEY AND KELLY (HILLMAN, '02) HARRISON welcomed Ella Ryan on October 18, 2007. Ashley works as an operations manager for Utley Brothers, Inc. and Kelly works part-time for the Rochester Church of Christ. The family lives in Shelby Township, MI.

LAURA (EVANS) HEIDELL and her husband James welcomed Sarah Lynne on June 21, 2007. Laura is now a stay-at-home mom, while James continues to work for Saturn. The family lives at 5500 Beresford St., Canal Winchester, OH 43110.

2001

MARK AND TAMARA (TITTLE) JOHNSON welcomed their first child, Grace Sophia, on August 28, 2007. Mark is the director of

operations at Rochester College and Tamara is a physician's assistant. The family lives at 4510 Justine, Shelby Township, MI 48317.

ALICIA ROE-RUSSELL and her husband Clifford recently purchased a home at 341 E. 3rd St., Gaylord, MI 49735.

CHRISTA (MUSSELMAN) MELTON married her husband Steven on July 4, 2007. They live at 733 Hubbard, Flint, MI 48503.

HAL FORGIE recently earned his MBA from Baker College. He works as an imaging engineer at Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis, TN. He and his family live at 6676 White Hawk Lane, Olive Branch, MS 38654.

LISA (SZAPPON) BRADY and her husband Dan welcomed Chloe Lauren on November 20, 2007. The family lives at 4943 Pebble Creek E., Apt. 9, Shelby Twp, MI 48317.

2002

CAMERON JONES was recently promoted to associate fermentation scientist. He has been with Emergent Biosolutions—Biodefense Operations since 2006. He lives at 6150 W. Michigan Ave., Apt S8 Lansing, MI 48917.

JAIME (BOLLAND) MUKHERJEE recently took a position with MetLife in Somerset, NJ. She and her husband live at 450 W. End Ave. #80, North Plainfield, NJ 07060.

ROBERT AND JENNIFER (TISCHLER, '05) CUTHBERTSON welcomed Elizabeth Kalle Lynn on September 7, 2007. The family lives at 672 Sheffield, Auburn Hills, MI 48326.

DAN CURTIS and his wife Rachael welcomed John Alden on November 7, 2007. They live at 408 Miller, Rochester Hills, MI 48307.

2003

Caleb and **SUZY (GOFFIN) PLETTNER** welcomed Ezra Steven on February 23, 2007.

The family lives at 746 W. Belmont Ave., Lincoln, NE 68521.

TARNELL SMITH accepted a position with Nationwide Insurance and has been in the Phoenix, AZ area for two years. He works in the High Severity Insurance Investigation Unit and lives at 23732 N. Wilderness Way, Florence, AZ 85232.

2004

HUDNEY AND ERIKA (WATSON) PIQUANT welcomed their daughter Akira on June 12, 2007. The family lives at 23622 Civic Center Dr., Apt #243, Southfield, MI 48033.

MATT STROUP has dedicated himself to be a positive influence for peer sailors and Marines, serving as a volunteer in the Naval and Air Technical Training Center's Positive Student Peer Program. Matt lives aboard Naval Air Station Pensacola at 230 Chevalier Field Ave. Bar C, Pensacola, FL 32508-5151.

2005

LEIGHTON AND KENDRA (MOWRER) ROGERS welcomed Lorelai Dawn on July 13, 2007. Leighton is a computer technician for Tech Resources, Inc. and Kendra is a stay-at-home mom. The family lives at 913 Cedargate Ct., Waterford, MI 48328.

MICHELLE (CORBIN) WITT and her husband Rick welcomed Geraldine Lela on November 19, 2007. The family lives at 4921 Clintonville Rd., Clarkston, MI 48346.

2007

SARAH "LENNY" GRABOWSKI AND HENRY OYIER were married on May 19, 2007. The couple lives at 15700 Lakeside Village Dr. #201, Clinton Township, MI 48038.

TREVOR KEISER is a staff writer for the Clarkston News in Oakland county. He lives at 720 Gregory Dr., Lapeer, MI 48446.

Upcoming Alumni Events

APRIL 2008

Dallas Alumni
Barbecue

SEPTEMBER 20, 2008

Fall Festival

NOVEMBER 1, 2008

Homecoming

For more information about these and other alumni events visit www.rc.edu/alumni.

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NAME (maiden if applicable): _____ YEARS: _____

OCCUPATION: _____

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Note children's names, recent births, job changes, marriages, promotions, etc. on a separate sheet of paper and remit with this form.



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Special scholarship added for the Windy

During the 2007 Chicagoland Dinner, held at the Lisle Hilton Hotel on November 30, the Rochester College development office announced the *Chicagoland Endowed Scholarship*. In order to implement the scholarship the college is seeking support in the amount of \$50,000. This project will conclude at next year's dinner, scheduled for December 4, 2008.

Each year Rochester College will raise money from the Chicagoland Dinner, which will be added to the scholarship fund to benefit aspiring students from the Chicago area. The scholarship will be invested and a percentage of the corpus will be awarded annually.

"The Chicago area is vital to the success of the college. We have many special friends, donors and alumni in the Chicago area and we are grateful for their support. This dinner has really blossomed into a special event, and I pray our endowed scholarship project will be successful as we look to make a difference in the lives of students from this region," said Klint Pleasant, vice president of development. To donate to the scholarship fund contact Pleasant at 248.218.2058.

Tennessee Volunteer lobby project launches

The launch of the *Tennessee Volunteer Lobby* project was the highlight of last year's Nashville Dinner, held at the Inn of Walking Horse Farms in Franklin, Tenn. on December 13, 2007.

With the support of friends and donors in the Tennessee area, the development office hopes to raise \$75,000 which will go towards naming the lobby/entryway in the new athletic center. In commemoration, a plaque of the state of Tennessee with a list of the people who participated in the project will be placed in the lobby.

"The Nashville dinner continues to be a tremendous blessing for the college. We were able to reconnect with so many special friends and alumni that have helped make the college what it is today. Our friends in Nashville were very generous with gifts towards the athletic center," commented Klint Pleasant, vice president of development. "Our constituents in the area mean so much to us and we are grateful for their support."

To date, Rochester College has received almost \$50,000 in cash and commitments towards the project. The goal is to reach completion by this year's dinner on December 11, 2008. A generous \$25,000 challenge gift from Hank Davis is included in the \$50,000 commitment.

John Todd Honor Scholarship announced

Alumnus and Rochester College trustee Robert Norton recently announced the establishment of an endowed scholarship in honor of Dr. John Todd, professor of political science.

Dr. Todd came to Rochester College in August of 1979 and has been a beloved teacher on campus for nearly 30 years. Thousands of students have played audience to his humor and witnessed firsthand his commitment to the college and traditional American values. His banter every four years at election time (and in between) with colleagues from opposing political parties has become legendary.

Dr. Todd served in the Vietnam War and as a lawyer in the Nixon administration before coming to Rochester College. He is married to Joyce (Whitaker, '67) Todd, who shares her husband's passion for law and serves as Assistant Prosecutor in the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office. They have two daughters, Lacey and Jessica.

The goal of the John Todd Honor Scholarship is \$50,000, which is one component of the 50th Anniversary endowment drive. Currently, pledges and cash donations total \$20,000. Contributions may be made directly to the development office or online at www.rc.edu

2007 Partner's Honor Roll

Thank you to all of our generous donors. You truly do make a difference in the lives of our students. For more information about donor clubs, honor and memorial gifts, and estate planning, please contact the development office.

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