

RHAC

RUSH-HENRIETTA ALUMNI COUNCIL

www.rhnet.org

Alumni Council Newsletter

RHAC
Rush-Henrietta Alumni Council

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Alumni Contacts

Before 1960

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Bob Thompson, Secretary
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1960-1969

Joe Bellanca, President
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1970-1979

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1980-1989

Mike Petramalo, VP
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1990-1999

Ann Grabowski
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2000-2009

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R-H Alumni Council
c/o RHEF
P.O. Box 777
Henrietta, NY 14467

Hall of Fame Nominations

The newly established Alumni Hall of Fame will induct two new members on Saturday, September 29, 2007, as part of Homecoming Weekend.

The Rush-Henrietta Alumni Council seeks nominees whose personal and professional lives are considered exemplary, and whose successes will inspire Rush-Henrietta students.

Since 2000, graduates selected as "Distinguished Alumni" have been honored with support of the Rush-Henrietta Education Foundation. The Foundation will continue to financially support the new Hall of Fame program, but coordination and selection of Hall of Fame inductees is now done by the Alumni Council.

To be considered for induction into the Rush-Henrietta Hall of Fame, the Council will apply the following criteria to all who are nominated:

- Nominees must be graduates of a high school operated within Rush and/or Henrietta, including Rush High School, Monroe Academy, or Henrietta High School. Eligible graduates may have earned diplomas from any of the more recent high schools that served residents of the Rush-Henrietta Central School District, including the Rush-Henrietta Central School from 1952 to 1968, the James E. Sperry High School since 1969, or the Charles Roth building during years in which it was operating as a second high school.

- Nominees may have succeeded at the local, regional, national or international levels in any appropriate area of endeavor, including academia

and education, arts, business, media, public service, philanthropy, medicine, military, science or the sports world, among others.

- Anyone except the nominee may nominate an alumnus or alumna, and nominations can be made posthumously; nominators need not have attended Rush-Henrietta schools to submit a nomination.

- Incomplete nominations will not be considered; nominators must provide details about those aspects that make the nominee worthy of induction.

Nominations must be received by Friday, May 25, 2007. The nomination must be submitted on an approved form, which can be downloaded by visiting www.rhnet.org/halloffame. Supporting material including resumes, letters of recommendation, or other materials are also welcome.

Nominating materials will be reviewed by all members of the Council's board of directors. One male and one female graduate will be selected from the field of nominees. Nominees not selected will automatically be advanced to the next year's collection of nominees, unless the nominator asks that the name be withdrawn.

Nominations must be mailed to:

2007 Alumni Council Hall of Fame
c/o R-H Education Foundation
P.O. Box 777
Henrietta, NY 14467

For more information, call the Council at (585) 359-5004.



Above, grads (l-r) include Melba Carter Ruppert ('47), Maria Tantillo-Mueller ('82), RHAC Vice President Mike Petramalo ('82), Kristen Fien ('82), and Mary Ann Bartholomay David ('57). Right, RHAC President Joe Bellanca ('65) reviews Council accomplishments with (l-r) Mary Ann Bartholomay David, Carol Pritchard Coombe ('56), Pat Clemens Sweetland ('64), Superintendent Dr. Ken Graham, and Melba Carter Ruppert. Visit www.rhnet.org/alumni to add your name to the directory.

Class Contacts Represent Six Decades

Thanks to the hospitality of Rush-Henrietta Alumni Council Vice President Mike Petramalo ('82) and his wife, Debbie, who opened their home on February 9, 2007, volunteer class contacts gathered for a progress report regarding the alumni organization's efforts. They were joined by members of the Council's board of directors and school district officials. Superintendent Dr. Ken Graham welcomed more than 30 people who attended. He complimented Council members for their high level of activity since the organization started a year ago, when a small group of alumni met at the Lehigh Restaurant on West Henrietta Road. He cited the impressive response of graduates who have registered on the district's Web site, which has surpassed 3,500 people. Also attending was Dr. Ken Hilton, the district's Executive Director for Research and Evaluation, who serves as the district liaison to RHAC and who has been an invaluable resource for the board of directors.

Council President Joe Bellanca ('65) provided a review of RHAC activities from the past year, and shared hopes for the future. He spoke of September 29, 2007, part of Homecoming Weekend, which will feature induction of two grads into the district's Alumni Hall of Fame. He asked for suggestions for activities that offer opportunities for graduates to get together on homecoming weekend and tour district facilities. He also emphasized ways in which class contacts can continue the growth of the organization by communicating with members of their respective classes and encouraging them to register online.

The issue of reaching graduates who do not use e-mail technology also was discussed. The Council's plans call for a concentration on e-mail communication, mainly for fiscal reasons. However, there may be future situations that would justify a regular mailing for those without computers or e-mail capability. A suggestion was made to develop a form for those graduates without e-mail that would allow class contacts to enter their names on the alumni pages of the district Web site; fellow classmates would know how to contact these alumni by regular mail or phone, provided the appropriate permission was granted. This will be discussed at the March 15, 2007, meeting of the board of directors.

Class contacts attending included Melba Ruppert ('47), Jack Gaffney ('51), Carolyn Gaffney ('53), Carol Pritchard Coombe ('56), Mary Ann Bartholomay David ('57), Bob Thompson ('58), Pat Page ('60), Pat Clemens Sweetland ('64), Joe Bellanca ('65), Chuck Barone ('67), Karen Quackenbush ('72), Wendy Weaver Kuhn ('78), Mike Petramalo ('82), Maria Tantillo Mueller ('82), Kristen Fien ('82), and Ann Grabowski ('93). A complete list of class contacts will be posted soon on the district Web site at www.rhnet.org/alumni. If your class does not have a contact and you're interested in serving as such, please e-mail any member of the board of directors for more information; see the first page of this newsletter for info.