
Connecting with Alumni of Rhodes State and Lima Tech



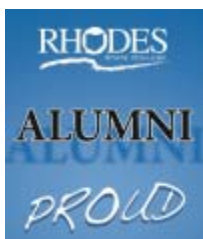
**Volume 2 Issue 5
July 2017**

We CARE (Connect, Advocate, Recognize, Engage) about You!

Welcome New Graduates

As a new member of the alumni family, you are receiving your first issue of the Rhodes State College Alumni newsletter. We invite you to read the articles, click on links, and be inspired to stay connected.

The motto of the alumni program is to "CARE about You." Follow us on Facebook (Rhodes State College Alumni) and LinkedIn, and stay involved with your academic program. Contact us with college-related questions. If you have accepted a new job, have started additional academic coursework or have changed your address, send an update to [Alumni Relations](#).



Message from the President

As the seasons turn to Summer, the College is turning the page on another year. While the 2016-2017 academic year draws to a close, it is also a time to celebrate new beginnings in the lives of our newest alumni.

The 2017 Rhodes State College Commencement ceremony, held Saturday, May 6th, saw some 270 of these scholars celebrated for their accomplishments as they marched across the stage at the Veterans Memorial Civic and Convention Center. All told, we welcomed an additional 465 graduates into the ranks of our proud Rhodes State College alumni this year.

And no matter the degree conferred, the Rhodes State college experience has brought them more than a diploma—it has opened new pathways for a brighter tomorrow. Undoubtedly, life will take these men and women down many paths, but they can rest assured that the work they have put in and the connections they have

made at Rhodes State will be a lifelong asset.

To our graduates: know that we could not be more proud. As with every graduating class, our faculty and staff have invested a great deal of institutional energy, heart and soul to ensure the success of our graduates—certainly a worthy investment as these students will shape the future of our local communities.

We wish our graduates all the best for their future and congratulate them on joining with over 17,000 of their peers as Rhodes State College alumni!

Congratulations!

Debra L. McCurdy, PhD
President



Commencement 2017

The 47th Commencement featured Ryan Burgess, Director of the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation, as the commencement speaker. In addition, Mary Marker, 2017 Outstanding Alumni Award recipient, shared a message with the graduates.

[View Commencement Video](#)

[View Photo Gallery](#)

2017 Outstanding Alumni Award Presented

Mary L. Marker, RES'80 received the 2017 Outstanding Alumni Award during Commencement. She was a member of the first graduating class of the Respiratory Care Program and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from Mount Vernon Nazarene University. Mary remains an invaluable volunteer for the College, as well as a board member for the Veterans Memorial Civic Center Foundation. She is the Director of Cardiopulmonary Ancillary Services for St. Rita's Medical Center.



[Learn more about Mary](#)



The banner features a colorful, abstract graphic of swirling shapes in shades of blue, green, yellow, orange, and purple. The text "Welcome Day" is in a cursive font, and "Rhodes State" is in a large, bold, black serif font. To the right, the date "August 20, 2017" is displayed in white. Below the date, the schedule is listed: "Check-in 12:30pm", "Welcome 1:00pm", and "Fun & Info 1:30-4:00pm". The music act "THE HIPNOTIX" is mentioned with their website "www.TheHipnotixBand.com" and the hashtag "#RhodesWelcomeDay". A small image of the band performing on stage is also included.

An Opportunity to Give Back

Hundreds of new students and their guests will visit the campus on Sunday, August 20th for Welcome Day. As a recent graduate, you are invited to share your Rhodes experiences. Alumni volunteers and faculty will talk informally with students as they visit the labs and clinics.

If you are interested, respond by August 10th to Carole Enneking at 567-242-5972 or by [email](#).



Alumni Perspective for Graduating Nursing Students

Nick Pratt, NSG'14 returned to the Rhodes campus this spring to share his personal experience starting as a staff RN as well as his continuing educational path. Pratt completed a BSN and is now working toward a doctorate in medicine. Students learned the importance of National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) preparation and being confident as a new professional.

Dental Hygiene Program Celebrated 40 years in March



Twenty-eight graduates, plus current students and area dental professionals, celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Dental Hygiene program on March 2 with a continuing education session and clinic open house. [Click here to view the video.](#)



Kathi Curth, DHY'79 and **Deb Hurd**, DHY'79 shared memories with Ms. McCain, who led the program.



Robyn Armstrong, DHY'78 and **Marjorie Brown**, DHY'78, alumni from the first Dental Hygiene graduating class, reconnected with Julianne McCain, former chair of the program.



Dental Hygiene program chair, Denise Bowers enjoyed time in the Dental Clinic with current students and Dr. Ramsey.

40th Year Celebration for Radiographic Imaging held in April



An Open House and alumni gathering were held on April 29th to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Radiographic Imaging program. Vince Fried, instructor and **Andy Shappell**, RAD'80 program coordinator, are joined by former chairs Judy Rayburn (1976-1982) and Linnea Hopewell (1982-1986).



Mary Kay Verhoff, RAD'78 (center), member of the first graduating class, enjoyed reminiscing about the program. Verhoff received the Rhodes State College Outstanding Alumni Award in 2002 for her dedication to career and College.



Dennis Spragg, former chair, visited with many former students, including **Cassie Bladen, RAD'14**.



Lorin Scantlen, RAD'17, shared her experience as a Consortium student with Rayburn. Scantlen, one of eight Northwest Ohio Allied Health Education Consortium students, lives in Hicksville, Ohio, and completed the RAD program through the distance education format.



Alumni and guests gathered at Lima's Buffalo Wings & Rings(c) for a chance to reconnect.



Radiographic Imaging alumni gave a "thumbs up" for the anniversary celebration. [Click here to view the highlights](#) video of the event.

[Post your Photos on Facebook!](#)



An online auction is underway as part of the 18th Annual Tee Off for Scholarships fundraiser. The annual golf outing and auction have raised over \$366,000 for student scholarships over the seventeen year history. This year's auction features eight items. Click on each item to learn more or [visit the auction site](#).



- Includes one registration for each 4-hour workshop
- Training materials and light refreshments included
- Value: \$1080.00



- Learn how to best use your own camera
- Tips for taking quality still photos and portraits
- Date & Time to be determined
- Value: \$150.00





Candlelight & Wine
mounted photo by Jerry
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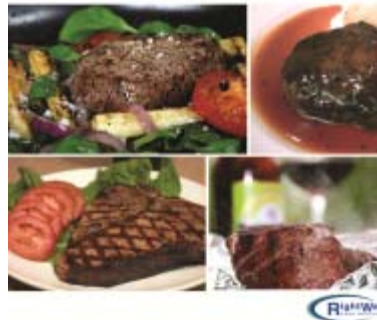
Open to NEW business members only, no renewals



The West Central Ohio Manufacturing Consortium (WCOMC) is a group of manufacturers dedicated to improving the manufacturing workforce in the West Central Ohio region. The group has worked closely with many local educational institutions to develop a Manufacturing Pathways Certification Program that prepares workers for the high-tech positions required in today's modern manufacturing workplace. To find out more about the WCOMC and its Pathway program, contact Doug Durlist at 419-995-8353.

Assorted Meat Box

- 4-6 oz Filets
- 4-10 oz Strips
- 4-10 oz Ribeye
- 4-5.33 oz Chop Steaks



**3 Credit Hours of
TUITION**

RHODES
STATE COLLEGE

- Certificate may be redeemed by a specific new or continuing student or gifted to assist a student with financial need
- An application to Rhodes State College must be completed
- Tuition must be redeemed before 6/30/18
- Value: \$501.57

Success Stories - Click to [share your own update.](#)

- **Marla Bolen**, LEG'97 owner of New Bridge Realtors
- **Michelle Brough**, NSG'03 featured by The Lima News for Women's History Month
- **Abbott Carder**, LAW'05 of the Ottawa Police Department, honored as a Top Cop by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)
- **Alec Cooper**, LAW'11 of the Ada and Delphos Police Departments, recognized by MADD as a Top Cop
- **Mandi Bryan Ellerbrock**, CPC'05 owner of Small Town Bliss Photography in Ottawa, Ohio
- **Pamela Frost**, NSG'92 Director of Nursing at American Institute of Alternative Medicine and completing PhD in Psychology
- **Barry Friemoth**, LAW'12 of the Allen County Sherriff's office, honored by MADD as a Top Cop Trooper
- **Robert Gatchel**, LAA'98 honored for saving a woman's life while on patrol with the Lima Post of the Ohio Highway Patrol
- **Alexander Gresham**, LAW '13 of the Allen County Sheriff's office, honored as a Top Cop by MADD
- **Scotty Luedeke**, LAW'11 of the Lima Police Department, honored as a Top Copy by MADD
- **Mary Chambers Monford**, ECD'99 one of eight Jefferson Award for Public Service winners from Lima/Allen County
- **Denise Spicer**, MGH'00 owner of Spicer Real Estate in Wapakoneta
- **Toby Watson**, LAW'10 of the Perry Township Police Department, named Top Cop by MADD

- **Erik Weiss**, FMS'09 completed a Master of Science in Engineering Management and a MBA from the Indiana Institute of Technology concurrently
- **Margaret Whitlatch**, RST'87 elected as officer of Lima Convalescent Home Board
- **Vonda Witham**, OAD'96 featured by The Lima News for Women's History Month

Memorials

- **Louis Accerro**, LAW'90
- **James Bagge**, HUM'96
- **Cheryl Belt**, RAD'86
- **Waneta Cotterman**, NSG'76
- **Ott Jordan**, EMT'80
- **Janet Joseph**, NSG'07
- **Herb Lane**, ECE'10
- **Hajah Rosie Muhammad**, DTN'88
- **Catherine Rahrig**, ACC'74
- **Joyce (Kentner) Schlenker**, MGT'82
- **Michael Sealscott**, LAW'00
- **Rita Upthegrove**, ACC'02



Marlena Ballinger, CPC'98, received the 2017 Woman-owned Business Award from the Lima/Allen County Chamber of Commerce for her business, The Dough Hook.



Kelly Golden, OAE'14, was the alumni speaker at the 2017 Scholarship Awards Reception. Golden, who currently works at Rhodes State College, shared how receiving a scholarship allowed her to be successful at Rhodes.



Sandra Bullock, ACC'01 & NSG'10 received the New Business Award from Downtown Lima, Inc.



Featured Alumnus

Doug Roller, HUM'15 describes his journey from combat veteran to scholar as a path "from the pits of hell onto the mountain of hope." Roller served in Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2004 to 2005; when he returned home, he realized that he looked at the world through "different lenses." He struggled with readjustment. While he was successful in the academic program the military had suggested for him, he did not feel the career path was a fit for him.

With support of his wife, children and several Rhodes State staff, Roller searched the majors available through Rhodes State and he found the Human Service program. Diane Haller, Human Service chair, reviewed his completed coursework and helped him transition to and graduate with an associate degree in Human Service. In his final semester, he was accepted into The Ohio State University Social Work program. He graduated from OSU on May 7th cum laude and started a Master Degree in Clinical Social Work through the University of Kentucky's Weekend Hybrid Program in June. Upon completion of that degree, Roller hopes to work with individuals with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

Doug is a great example of how a Rhodes State College education can be a stepping stone. He found the College to be military-friendly, providing needed support for returning veterans, and also dedicated to student success.



Featured Alumni Family

Kim Rosselit, NSG'14, Adam Rosselit, NSG'14, Jill Rosselit, NSG'17, and Dana Rosselit, NSG'17 are siblings who all graduated from Rhodes State College, have completed the Nursing program, and work for St. Rita's Medical Center. The family tradition has not yet ended with younger brother, Brent, starting the Nursing program in the fall and another brother who is a Rhodes State College College Credit Plus student. This Putnam County family is a strong supporter of Rhodes State College.

Kim Rosselit, NSG'13, works as an RN on the ICU Stepdown floor with brother, **Adam Rosselit, NSG'14**. "Rhodes was a very good program and provided a strong foundation for my future career," commented Kim. Both Kim and Adam will complete a bachelor degree from Western Governors University this August. According to Adam, "Rhodes really helped when preparing me for real world nursing and the NCLEX." The spring 2017 graduating class includes sisters **Jill Rosselit, NSG'17** and **Dana Rosselit, NSG'17**. Jill graduated with honors and is an Alpha Delta Nu Nursing Honor Society Member. Upon passing the NCLEX exam, she will move from a Nurse Tech position to an RN on the Neurosciences floor. "I loved my experience at Rhodes! All of the professors went above and beyond to ensure that I had all the knowledge and skills I needed to be successful." Dana has been working as a Nurse Tech and will move into an RN position on the ICU Stepdown floor after passing the NCLEX. She plans to go on for a bachelor degree within a year of graduation. "Going to Rhodes was a great learning experience. I would recommend this program to anyone!"



Cheryl Kuck, Medical Assisting Program Chair, reconnected with **Jennifer Kuhlman**, MAT'08 at the Alumni Day held recently at the Orthopaedic Institute of Ohio. Over twenty alumni stopped by the Rhodes Alumni display for goodies and to visit with faculty.



Eric Peyton, MGT'98 was one of ten alumni who served as company recruiters at the Spring Job & Internship Fair. The next Fair is scheduled for September 14th; contact [Krista Richardson](#) (Career Services) to get involved.



The Spring Nurses Pinning ceremony was held on May 3rd. Click to [view the photo gallery](#) provided by **Jim Hoffman**, NSG'83.



Another alumni legacy was identified at the Pinning: **Alan Childs**, NSG'17 was pinned by his mother, **Kerry Childs**, NSG'86.



Jessica Bentley, OAM'03 stopped by the Rhodes Alumni table at OIO on April 20th.



Alton McPherson, joined by Dr. Eric Mason and President Dr. Debra McCurdy, received the Alumni Legacy Scholarship during the April 12th Scholarship Reception. Alton is a 3rd generation Rhodes State student joining mother, **Crystal Marshall**, DTN'96, and grandmother, **Deveria Dake**, ACC'87. Also receiving the scholarship is Justine Cook (not pictured), the granddaughter of **Patricia Cook**, ACC'83.

Donations to the Alumni Legacy Scholarship Fund are welcome at anytime. Contact the [Development Office](#) to learn more about supporting Student Scholarships.



On a cold and blustery day in early May, the Lima Fire Department assisted with the annual Golf Ball Drop fundraiser. Over 460 golf balls were dropped from the extended ladder truck and prize winners were determined by those balls closest to the pins. The event raised \$2340 for the Rhodes State College Foundation Scholarship Fund.



Shayna Coil, ECE'17 will never forget her college commencement. Her fiancé proposed to her during the reception. President McCurdy shared in the celebration, too.



Two Rhodes State College students, **John Pannell**, NSG'17 and **Laura Kahlig**, OTA'17 were named to the 2017 All Ohio Academic Team. They attended, with Phi Theta Kappa advisor Ann Best and College representatives, the April 10th Awards Ceremony in Columbus.



Three Rhodes State College Business students and their advisor, Brenda McKinley, attended the 2017 Business Professionals of America National Convention in Florida.



Over 300 people attended the Scholarship Award Reception on April 12th. It was standing room only in Keese Hall Multipurpose Center as 95 students met with donors, College representatives and President McCurdy.

Ways to Give Back to Rhodes State College:

- Hire a Rhodes State intern or graduate
- Volunteer in the classroom, with a student organization, or with special events
- Show your Rhodes State College pride by referring potential students
- Make a donation

Contact Alumni Relations to learn how you can become more involved.

[Home](#) | [Contact](#) | [Giving](#)



Let's Keep Connected

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