Greetings, ARC members and friends,

Fall has definitely arrived and it is a good time to be connected with Rochester College! It is reported that there is a very talented RC Warriors freshman class, and that they have infused the campus with enthusiasm. If you are a new member this 2012-2013 year...welcome! We are so thankful for your support and look forward to working together. We are proud of our students, staff, and faculty, and we are thrilled to count you as a supporter of this wonderful Christian college.

ARC has been busy this fall with efforts to bring new members into our college support group. During a recent calling center effort, 100% of the parents and students that we spoke with had positive comments regarding their first month at RC! Remarks like “I love it” were heard over and over again along with positive reports about their studies this semester.

Please remember as the holidays approach, and while showers and party events are planned, that gift cards “Scrip” are always a great gift idea...even for that person who you “never know what to buy for”. Plus, they’re easy to wrap! You also use these towards your own restaurant, grocery, gas, home repair purchases. Check out how you can buy gift cards and with a little preplanning and at no extra expense, you can raise funds for ARC. Go to http://www.rc.edu/people/arc/fundraisers/#Scrip.

Are you a Kroger shopper? ARC’s “Kroger Community Rewards” fundraiser continues to provide us quarterly checks that help our efforts. For more information on this initiative, please visit http://www.rc.edu/people/arc/fundraisers/#Kroger.

I hope you will enjoy reading this newsletter where you will find a letter from Rochester College’s college president, the wonderful story of two of our scholarship alumni, sweet reminiscences from Miss Ida, and other items including our upcoming opportunity to bless the students with our “Random Acts of Cookies” event. Let’s continue our efforts as our yearly theme suggests, “For Such a Time as This!”

Blessings from Him,

Carol Passage
President
**Affirmation from others . . .**

I have always believed that an institution is better served by third-party praise than by “tooting its own horn.” So, although we certainly buy advertising space on billboards and purchase air time on major radio stations, I like it even better when people outside our own ranks rise up to affirm what we do at Rochester College.

Here are a couple of recent things that make me feel good about what continues to happen at the college. I think they will encourage you as well.

Rochester College has no better friend than the chief elected official of Rochester Hills, Mayor Bryan Barnett. Here is a quote from a letter he wrote this month:

> It would be difficult to fully communicate the importance of Rochester College in this community. The respect they command from our community, business, and spiritual leaders is without comparison. The professors and staff are utilized and contribute regularly to various local boards and initiatives, and Rochester College students are sought after by our business community for their intellect, personal integrity and work ethic. Rochester Hills enjoys one of the state's lowest unemployment rates, in part, because of the high caliber, career-ready graduates produced by Rochester College.

As if to underscore such generous praise, we recently received word that Rochester College has cracked the list – perhaps for the first time ever, insofar as anyone here can recall – of *U.S. News & World Report’s* “Best Regional Colleges.” In this well-known ranking system, “regional colleges” are those that focus on undergraduate education as opposed to research and graduate programs.

Some 16 factors – ranging from assessment by administrators at peer institutions to credentialing and strength of faculty to student retention – are taken into account. Given that some 1,600 schools are evaluated each year, it is not a small thing that Rochester College has been named among the best 75 colleges in the Midwest.

God continues to bless the work that you make possible at Rochester College. It wouldn’t happen without your faithful support.

Rubel Shelly
COOL YULE PARTY and MEETING

Date: December 4th, 2012
Location: The campus of Rochester College in the chapel
Time: 6:30 p.m.

As always, you’ll bring those special white elephant gifts we’ve been saving for this special occasion. Bring a wrapped gift in holiday paper ready to dump, oops! I mean bless someone with. This year you’ll bring a salad to share, the drinks and dessert will be provided for you.

This is also the time to bring your 3 dozen homemade (if possible) cookies for Random Acts of Cookie Day.

Remember to bring your Christmas list, Scrip gift cards are always the perfect gift!

Plan now to bring a carload and enjoy the fun, food, entertainment, and fellowship! Call me, Pat Harrison, if you have any questions at 248-651-6126.

RANDOM ACTS OF COOKIES

Please bring 3 dozen homemade cookies in a disposable container to the Cool Yule Party on December 4th. We will distribute them to the students on the last day of chapel on December 6th. If you would care to join us as we hand out the yummy treats, call Pat Harrison at 248-651-6126 for the time and place.

ALMA GATEWOOD’S 104th BIRTHDAY

Last year we celebrated Alma Gatewood’s birthday and we thought it would be a wonderful tradition to carry it on. Last year we collected $328.80 for her 103rd birthday. If you would like to participate, please bring to the Cool Yule Party: 104 pennies = $1.04, 104 nickels = $5.20, 104 dimes = $10.40, 104 quarters = $26.00, or 104 dollars = $104.00. If you are not able to attend the Cool Yule meeting, but want to participate, you are welcome to send your donation to: Pat Harrison, 433 Cherry Tree Ln, Rochester Hills, MI 48306.
On September 22nd forty lovely ladies enjoyed an afternoon of tea, scones, fruit, sandwiches, and desserts as Norma Morris provided background music at the piano. $900 was raised through ticket sales and donations! Thank you Tea-Ladies so much! This year our Victorian Tea was dedicated to the memory of Ann Luchsinger who left this world in November of 2011. Ann was involved from the start with the Victorian Tea and one of our most ambitious workers. She was a quiet woman with lots of energy and a great chuckle who enjoyed working in the background. In years past, she made sandwiches, took pictures, and helped prepare plates for our guests at the Tea. She was a dear friend who will never be forgotten.

God bless,

Mary Utley for the committee

CHANGE BANDITS

The Brighton and South Lyon ladies had a ball dressing up like change bandits. They went to the homes of several people they knew, asked for their change, and sang them the song “Love is like a lucky penny, hold it tight and you won’t have any, but give it away, give it away, and you’ll have plenty more, more, more, more.” They raised $400! Carol said she took 27 pounds of change to the bank!

INK JETS

Remember to bring all of your empty inkjets to the December meeting. Just toss them in a plastic bag and give them to me, Tamera Conner, and I will turn them in for you. It is just as easy as that! Let’s earn money for something you would have tossed away.

FACE BOOK

Please “like” us on Facebook (http://www.facebook.com/associatesofrocesterecollege) to stay up to date on our latest news...also you can access our website at http://www.rc.edu/people/arc/.
Ida Palmer, the 2nd First Lady of Michigan Christian College, recalls memories:

- Fondly remembering signing the guest book at the very first Associates meeting. Even with gravel and muddy roads hundreds of women attended the meeting held in the Maxim House. The room just overflowed with excitement!
- Remembering Scotty’s Fish and Chips, both at Fall Festival and the State Fair. Lots of work, but oh such good, good times!!!
- Remembering the Saturday morning parade on Fall Festival day, making the floats, crowning of the queen, the dunking booth, and smelling the steer burgers grilling all day. There were so many festivities and wonderful fellowship! Fall Festival was always such a highlight and always further bonded us, a group with a mission, as we worked closely together for a successful event!
- Remembering the years we sold and wore hats. Oh! What fun we had trying them on!
- Remembering the sweet, sweet memories of the beginning with Alma’s enthusiasm.
- Remembering visiting Alma’s house and never leaving without a little gift of a pencil, notebook, or whatever she had on hand, she shared!
- Remembering how thrilled we were the first time we met in the Gold Room. It has served so well for so many different functions and uses.

With much love and appreciation, I recall these and so many fond memories of the dear, hard working, dedicated Associates. Lucien and I definitely experienced some of our happiest days and years at MCC. He did and I will forever cherish the precious memories and the lifelong friendships!

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Have you ever heard the saying: “We plan, and God laughs”? This statement could not be truer of Brian and my life together.

When I began my search for the college I would attend to pursue my degree in teaching, I was on the hunt for a Christian college that was close to my parents home in Sterling Heights. I was introduced to Rochester College and began attending in the Fall of 2001. I had originally planned on attending Tyndale College in Farmington Hills, but eventually decided on Rochester instead. Little did I know, 3 years later, Tyndale would close its doors.

Brian began attending Rochester College also in the Fall of 2001 after several family members before him. A mutual friend introduced Brian and I, and we soon discovered we were in the same bowling class together. A phone call, a date later, and the rest was history! We dated the remainder of our time at the college pursuing our degrees. Brian received a degree in Business Administration and myself, a degree in Elementary Education.

We were married in July of 2006 and we welcomed our son, Luke Edward Dickinson, on May 27, 2010.

We are currently living in the Novi area. Brian is working as a Production Manager at R&D in Plymouth and I am working as a Literacy Intervention Teacher in the Walled Lake School District.

Rochester College has been such a blessing to our lives. We could not have asked for a better experience as we were both fulfilled spiritually, intellectually, and emotionally. The daily “chapel” meetings fed us spiritually and helped give us strength in our studies as well as within our relationship together. The friendships and memories we created while at Rochester, will always have a special place in our hearts. The relationships we formed with peers as well as with professors, truly laid the foundation for our life together. Thank you and God bless.

Sincerely,

Brian and Grazia Dickinson