



Alumni Association of Rensselaer NY School District Newsletter

Late Spring/Summer 2024

President's Message

I hope everyone has had a wonderful early spring even with the temperamental weather patterns. The Alumni Association has been extremely busy holding a craft fair with the class of 2025 and having the Hall of Fame Induction dinner. It was so wonderful to hear the stories of all of our new inductees. As the year winds down, we are preparing for having a breakfast for the graduating seniors, our commencement awards, and some fun summer trips for alumni to enjoy. We hope you will enjoy one of our activities or meetings-we would love to have your input! I hope you have a fantastic summer!

Denise Roberts Wright '83

Trips planned

Our social committee has been coordinating with the West Sand Lake Senior Citizens to provide a wide variety of trips for our members to enjoy. ***If you are interested in either of these trips please let us know before May 9th by emailing alumniassociation@rcsd.k12.ny.us and we will send you more information for each trip.***

Cooperstown: Tuesday, July 9th \$104-This trip includes round trip motorcoach transportation, 1 hour cruise on Ostego Lake, lunch at the Lake Front Restaurant, and admission to the Fenimore Art Museum

Twin Lobsters at the Log Cabin: Tuesday, August 6th \$143-This trip includes round trip motorcoach, twin lobster or prime rib luncheon, Simon & Garfunkel Tribute show

Other trips on the agenda-we just don't have a due date yet for these are:

Lake George Dinner Theatre: Wednesday, August 28 \$113-This trip includes round trip motorcoach transportation, lunch & show at the dinner theatre, stop at Martha's for ice cream (on your own)

Catskills Fall Foliage trip: Wednesday, October 23 \$101

Please let us know if you are interested and we will send you information about the trips.

Save the Date: There are a number of different activities in the works. Be sure to mark them on your calendar!

- June 7th: “Wizard Night” at the Joe Bruno Stadium
- August 1st: Day at the Saratoga Race track
- September 8th: All class reunion at Schodack Town Park



standing left-right: Stephen Fahrenkopf '84, Gordon Reynolds '71, Jim Finke (Posthumous award for Ronald Thomas Burkman 1923), Andrew Higgs faculty, Jay Foust '81 and Staff, Dexter James '86

sitting left-right: Ed Meyer '72, David Chambers '71, Tracy Foust '83 and Staff, Mary Mahar Faculty, Thomas Maggs '65, Dennis Connell '81

Hall of Fame Induction Dinner

The Hall of Fame dinner was a great success with 105 people enjoying a cocktail hour and delicious buffet. A plaque and R pin were given to each inductee. The new photo cutout board was on display during the cocktail hour for people to enjoy. It was a wonderful evening of stories and great memories.



Craft Fair: March 23

Even though the weather was tough that day, we had 40 crafters who braved the weather to join us. We had 100 people come to the fair and a good time was had by all. The Easter bunny was able to visit with approximately 30 little visitors. At one point we did have a power outage but everyone soldiered on and we raised approximately \$2000 that the Class of 2025 and the Alumni Association will share for their graduation activities and projects.

Class advisor Andrew Higgs and Association President Denise Wright wanted to thank HOF Mary Mahar and Board of Education member Stacy Hover for helping with the Concession stand and all of the Alumni association members and students who assisted with the fair.



Photo cutout board is Finished

With the help of HOF member and art teacher Tessa Kent and Jeff Wright, the Alumni Association President's husband our 4'x4' cutout board has been finished. This board will be able to be at a variety of events for people to have a great photo opportunity with the Ram mascot.

HOF Inductee Dexter James' family members Marque James and Tyrese Smith having some fun with the board at the Hall of Fame dinner

Enrichment grants in Action:

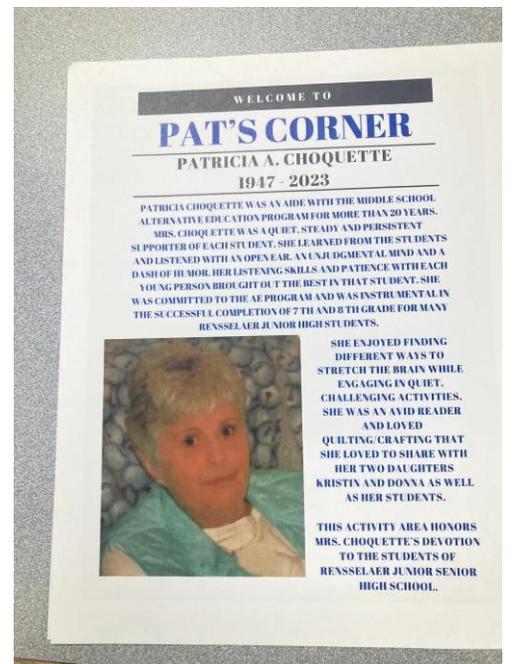
The Alumni Association provides a yearly \$1000 grant to both the elementary school and the junior/senior high school to provide various educational experiences for students. This year's grants provided an anti-bullying presentation for elementary/middle school and a "Path to Greatness" presentation for High School students from Tay Fisher a former Harlem Globetrotter and Siena Saint. According to Principal Dominic Pitaniello, it was great and well-received by students and staff. Thanks again for all the support the alumni association has provided."



Association members D. Wright and Tessa Kent with librarian Heather Jenner and the craft items.

Craft Corner for HS Library

The association assisted Ginny Mahigian a former teacher at Rensselaer to set up a craft corner in the high school library under the guidance of librarian Heather Jenner in loving memory of the late Pat Choquette, a retired aide whom she worked with at Rensselaer.



Webmaster in Training needed: Are you looking for a way to help the Alumni Association? If you have some webmaster experience, our webmaster would love the opportunity to chat with you. If you are interested in learning more please email alumniassociation@rcsd.k12.ny.us.

Contact Information

Web: RensselaerNYAlumni.org

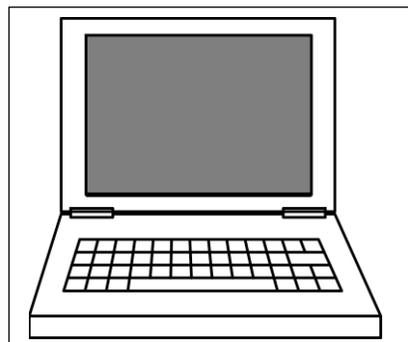
Rcsd.k12.ny.us/high school/alumni association

Facebook/groups/RenssSchoolsAlumni

Instagram: RCSDalumni

Email: alumniassociation@rcsd.k12.ny.us

Email: alumnitreasurer@rcsd.k12.ny.us



Membership Drive update: To date since March, we have had 143 total new members and 1 new member since March. The association has received \$11,390 in donations to date which helps us with graduation awards and projects that help Rensselaer students. Thank you so much for your generosity!

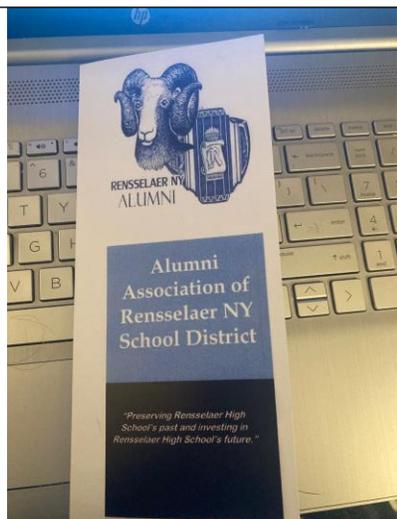
Next meetings:

- **May 7 at 6:30 pm**
- **June 4 at 6:30 pm**

Meetings take place in the Large Group Instruction room at the high school. If you can't attend in person-we also have a YouTube channel where you can watch the meetings live or recorded when you have the time.

“I think the success of any school can be measured by the contribution the alumni make to our national life.”

-John F. Kennedy



New Brochure Finished

Our new brochure has been printed. We had them available at the Hall of Fame dinner and are looking forward to handing some out at the April 23 Board of Education meeting as well as the Farmers Market in Rensselaer this year.

Officers

President:
Denise Wright '83

Vice President:
Tracey Stock '80

Secretary: Tracy Foust '83

Treasurer:
Liz Rooney Ryan '89
Ex-Officio:

Doris Roberts '61

Webmaster: Tom Mulyca '69