



The Riverside University High School Foundation

Serving alumni, friends, and families of Riverside University High School

2010 Membership Dues Drive

WINTER 2010

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The Foundation is funded almost entirely by annual memberships and additional donations from Riverside alumni and friends. The annual dues are \$40 and are being solicited through this newsletter. It is our hope that all Riverside Foundation donors will continue to renew their annual memberships and donate generously so that the Foundation can continue to support Riverside in its mission to provide a high quality, college preparatory education to its diverse student body. The "December 2010 Donation Form" on the reverse side as well as the enclosed return envelope can be used to make your donations. Thank-you in advance for your support.

First Annual Foundation Golf Fundraiser a "Swinging" Success

Sixty-four (64) golfers braved the unusually chilly and windy conditions on August 29, 2009 at the New Berlin Hills Golf Course to kick off the first annual Riverside University High School Golf Fundraiser. The event was organized by Riverside alumnus, Rosemary Maniscalco (Class of 1965), the owner of Halliday's Lounge, 1729 N. Farwell Ave. in Milwaukee.

Rosemary is pictured here (on the right) with Foundation President Jan Gibson.



Following completion of the golf outing, a wonderful lunch was provided at Hallidays and everyone in attendance received a prize. Among the prizes awarded were several rounds of golf for four at New Berlin Hills, a brand new putter, several sets of Brewer's game tickets, sweatshirts, tote bags, and numerous gift certificates for meals and merchandise. A special thanks goes to Robbie Kelepouris, Rosemary's nephew, who secured all of these wonderful prizes. A special thanks also to Shorewood Printing for serving as a major hole sponsor at this fundraiser. This inaugural event raised over \$1,500 for the Foundation's activities in support of Riverside and its students.

Pictured right participating in the event are, left to right, Jane Browne, Foundation Board member Mike Drew, Bill Werner and Mike's wife Alice Hanson-Drew.



Also pictured left moving to the first tee are, left to right, Foundation Board members Stephanie Maney ('91), Kory Koneazny ('91), and their playing partners Robin Grindrod and Mary Antkowski.



Family Recognizes Value of Riverside Education

Whether it's "East Division High School", "Riverside High School" or "Riverside University High School", it has graduated two generations of the Lueck family and a 3rd generation is on the way.

Don and Jane Lueck's children (Doug, John, Erica {Lueck} Wiese and Curtis) graduated in the early 1960s. The 1980s and 90s brought the 2nd generation (Heather, Heidi, Neil and Tim). Neil Jr. will be the 3rd generation. Exemplifying the close Riverside University High School and University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee relationship, Doug, John, Erica, Curt and Heidi all hold UWM degrees.

Doug ('61; Janesville) is a Vietnam Era USAF veteran. He worked as a university academic advisor/counselor for 16 years and 18 more as a Wisconsin Education Association Council field representative before retiring in 2004. Daughter Heidi **Lueck Miller ('87; Milwaukee)**, is a MPS special education teacher. **Heather ('88; Seattle)**, is a U of Washington graduate who works in the hospitality/food service industry for the Hyatt Hotels Corporation. **Neil ('95; Milwaukee)** is self-employed and father of future 3rd generation alumnus Neil Jr.

Family Recognizes cont. on page 4

Route to Post-Secondary Studies Differs for Today's Students

by Billi Jo Saffold, RUHS English Teacher

The methods used to encourage students to consider enrolling in a college or university to earn a degree have changed with the times, as have the faces of the students who now attend Riverside University High School in Milwaukee, WI. Most of today's students will be first-generation college students. In times past, students may have had candid discussions in the home about what was necessary to prepare for the rigors of college or perhaps they graduated at a time when they could opt out of college but still get a good job. Such is no longer the case for most of today's students. To earn a family supportive income most must earn a post-secondary degree or beyond. To help students decide where to attend college, Riverside now takes interested students on an annual tour across the nation to visit colleges and universities of interest to them.

Many of Riverside's current students are interested in attending a historically Black college or university (HBCU). Most of these institutions are located in the South, Southeast, or on the East coast. Historically Black institutions sprang up after 1865 once slavery was abolished in the U.S. to allow former slaves and their offspring to gain a quality college education. The value of these institutions and their cultural history are often discussed in the homes of our students, from the pulpit in many of the churches they attend, and they are also at the crux of the plot of many of today's movies, television shows, and novels of interest to many of Riverside's students. There are more than fifty HBCU institutions still in existence today. One of the best ways



Riverside tigers reached for higher heights while pausing for a moment of reflection during a recent tour.

to help our students make informed choices about which one to attend based on their intended major and other interests is to put them on a bus and take them to tour the campuses. Toward that end, Riverside offers a weeklong annual tour that takes students to visit at least eight different campuses. The tour accommodates as many as forty-five students per year. Over the past five years since the inception of the tour we have realized a significant increase in the number of students who elect to attend college, with a direct correlation to those who are electing to attend an HBCU institution because of the tour.

"Students must take notes at each of the institutions"

The Riverside school community has also realized other benefits of the annual HBCU tour. Because students must meet stringent eligibility requirements to participate, we have seen an improvement in academic performance. We have also noted behavioral improvement in students who once had a history of egregious behavior. We have also seen students who may have had attendance issues work to ensure that they



We require that our students take notes during each college's admissions session.

attend school regularly as our eligibility rules state that all tour participants must attend all classes at least 90% of the time to participate on the tour.

Once on tour, students must take notes at each of the institutions using a notebook we provide to them. As chaperones, we check nightly to ensure that our tour participants have taken adequate notes. Once the student is ready to make a decision about which schools to apply to late in the junior year or early in the senior year, they have copious notes they took during the tour, along with their own candid reflections about how they felt about each of the schools we toured, to help them make an educated determination.

While our students are out of school for a full week due to the tour's schedule, they do not fall behind in their school work. Each participant must sign a contract agreeing to gather all of their homework for the week from teachers, agree to get it done while we are on tour, and turn it in on time upon our return from the tour. Furthermore, we build daily homework and study time into the tour schedule. It is exciting to see our students working together each night of the journey to learn from each other. The tour allows students to realize that learning, doing homework, and seeking help is a cool thing to do!

Over the past four years our tour has been funded in large part by two Milwaukee area foundations, one of which is closing in 2010, and the other of which is a small foundation that did not generate enough funds to help our effort again this year. The total cost of a typical week-long tour is approximately \$1K per student, but via the grant funds we assessed each student just \$375.00 to participate. In the wake of the loss of grant funds the future of our annual HBCU tour is in grave jeopardy. However, the tour effort is far too important for us to give up, so we are battling on in true tiger tradition to generate the necessary funds for the 2010 tour and beyond. No child should be left behind due to financial hardships. Our students need the support of the Riverside community at large to ensure the continuation of this important student activity.

The Riverside University High School Foundation has donated \$1,000 to support this activity. In addition, the Foundation has offered to match up to another \$1,000 in donations from Riverside alumni and friends. This is where you come in. We are asking for special additional donations this year to be used solely for the purpose of supporting Riverside's annual Historically Black College and University tour. You can use the attached donation form to designate part of your total contribution for this purpose.

The Riverside Music Program Continues to Shine

Riverside continues to offer one of the most comprehensive music programs among high schools in the Milwaukee metropolitan area. The Music Department offers vocal music courses and activities including **Treble Choir**, **Gospel Choir**, **Madrigal Choir**, **Swing Choir**, as well as instrumental music opportunities such as **Beginning Band**, **Concert Band**, **Symphonic Band**, **Orchestra**, **Jazz Ensemble**, **Piano / Electric Keyboard** and **Guitar Performance**. Some classes require an audition for entrance. Lessons on most music instruments and voice are available.

Riverside also has one of the few remaining active high school drama departments in the city, producing a play as well as a full-scale musical each year. Riverside also offers the only course in Stagecraft (sound, lights, rigging, and construction) offered in MPS and takes great pride in the school's student-run Stage, Costume, and Set Design Crews.

Two dynamic and dedicated teachers provide the inspiration and leadership for all of these musical activities.



Ms. Milena Walker, the Music Department Chairperson, has been teaching at RUHS since 1994. She directs all the choirs and teaches piano. Ms. Walker also directs and choreographs the annual school play and musical. Her specialty is voice and she has sung with the Florentine Opera Chorus for 12 years.



Mr. Michael Van Pelt has been teaching at RUHS since 2002 and has been teaching for MPS since 1990. Mr. Van Pelt directs all of the school bands, the orchestra, the Jazz Ensemble and also serves as the guitar teacher. He also runs all technical aspects of the stage: lighting, sound, set construction, etc.

Mr. Van Pelt's specialty is low brass. He is also the conductor for the Milwaukee American Legion Band and performs with several area big bands, jazz combos, and rock groups.

SWING CHOIR NEEDS YOUR HELP

The Swing Choir has been a part of Riverside for many years and has been under the very capable direction of Ms. Walker for the past fifteen (15) years and the late Ms. Kate Windorski for ten (10) years prior to that. The Swing Choir has provided many exciting performances for school and community groups throughout the area. Students who have had an opportunity to perform in this group have developed many fond memories. Year after year the Swing Choir has won local, regional and state competitions, gone on trips together, performed for the biennial city-wide music festival and delighted audiences with their energy and enthusiasm. The Riverside University High School Swing Choir has represented the school proudly and with great distinction. These talented students are a wonderful testament to everything that is good about the school.

The school has never been able to afford to provide appropriate costumes for the Swing Choir members. The Choir has always had to do fundraising for this purpose. The current purple sequined dresses and vests are ten years old and in desperate need of replacement. The Riverside University High School Foundation Board of Directors feels so strongly that these great ambassadors for the school should be properly costumed that it agreed to donate \$1,000 toward the approximately \$5,200 cost of new costumes. In addition, the Foundation has offered to match up to another \$1,000 in donations from alumni and friends of Riverside.

This is where you come in. We are asking for special additional donations this year to be used solely for the purpose of purchasing new costumes for the Riverside Swing Choir. You can use the attached donation form to designate a part of your total contribution to the Foundation for this purpose. We are calling on all Swing Choir alumni and all other Riverside alumni who have enjoyed the performances of this group in the past to please give generously.

Principal's \$100(+) Black and Orange Awards

\$100

Joan Aker (D/W)
Joe Baer
Phyllis Banzhaf
Roger Beaumont
Roger Beaumont
Lois Blinkhorn (D/W)
Mark Brickman
Bradley Brin (D/W)
Phyllis and
Allen Brostoff (D/W)
Susan Bullock (D/W)
Anthony DiTrapani
Ray Dzelzkalns
Donald Fandry
Mary Fowlkes
Millard Frohock
Judith and
Arnold Gertsma (D/W)
Jim and Jan Gibson
Jimmie Gibson
Fr. Guy Gurath (D/W)
William Hable (D/W)
Robert Henzl

Robert Henzl
Elizabeth Hogg
Bernard and
Kathleen James (D/W)
Robert Kaleta (D/W)
L.R. Ketchum
Bill and Nancy Knight
Karl Kopp (D/W)
Curtis Lueck
Heather Lueck
Neil Lueck
Tim Lueck
Heidi (Lueck) Miller
Dennis Mahoney
Sanford Mallin
Chris McAuliffe (D/W)
John and
Lucia Murtaugh (D/W)
Julia Nowicki
Catharine Smith (D/W)
Beverly Teter
Frederick Voss
Mary Ann Zapala
Trudy Zinecker

\$101-\$150

David Behrendt (D/W)
Diane and Donald Bezella
Shirvalen Crowley
Walter and
Gracia Drew (D/W)
Shirley Fitzpatrick
Natalie Heineman (D/W)
Jan Johnson
John Lueck
Doug Lueck
E. Robert Miller
Ed Morgan
George and Patricia Mueller
Julia Nowicki
William Orenstein
Ward Perket
Lewis Sapiro
Catherine Schamberger
Timothy and
Victoria Strattner (D/W)
Gamber Tegtmeier
Benjamin Weiss
Steve Wolf

\$151-\$200

Elizabeth Drew (D/W)
Paul Drummer
Julia Ihlenfeldt
Carol Justin (D/W)
Kimberly Maney
Rick Riemenschneider
Mike Schulte
Stowell and Associates (D/W)

\$200-\$300

Alice and Mike Drew (D/W)
Jane Podemski
Mildred Setright

\$300-\$400

Class of 1959

\$1,000+

Michael Holmes
Lee and Donna Whitcomb

D/W = Drew/Washabaugh
Newspaper Scholarship Fund



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**The Riverside University High School
Riverside University High School**
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Family Recognizes cont. from page 1

John ('64; Brookfield) was a MPS special education teacher for 30 years before retiring in 2002. His wife, Linda, is also a UWM graduate. **Tim ('91; Oak Creek)** is an engineering graduate of Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology and employed at Underwriters Laboratories. He and MaryAnn are expecting their first child in January.

Erica Lueck Wiese ('65; Oconomowoc) was a nurse for 30 years, working the last 19 for the Waukesha County Health

and Human Services Department before retiring in 1999. She and Art, UWM graduate and retired school psychologist, are gearing up for their son Matthew's graduation this spring with a UWM engineering degree.

Curtis ('65; Tucson) relocated to Arizona after completing both his engineering bachelor's and master's at UWM. He earned his PhD in civil engineering at the U of Arizona and subsequently started his own consulting firm which has offices in Tucson and

Phoenix. His wife, Maureen, is a UWM graduate and retired public school educator. Daughter, Gretchen, is a U of Arizona graduate.

Don and Jane instilled a love and value of education in their children that was passed on to their grandchildren. The Riverside years nurtured subsequent higher education and career choices. The eight Luecks have not forgotten their RUHS connection and we wish to thank them for their recent generous contribution to the Foundation.

Winter 2010 Donation Form

The Riverside University High School Foundation

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Email _____

Relationship to Riverside (Please check one)

Alumnus—Year Graduated _____

Staff Retired Staff Friend of Riverside

2009 Membership \$ \$40.00

Additional Donation For Black College Tour \$ _____

Additional Donation For Swing Choir Costumes \$ _____

Additional Donation For General Fund \$ _____

Total Donation \$ _____

Make check payable to **The Riverside University High School Foundation** and mail it in the enclosed envelope.

Remember, all contributions are tax-deductible as provided by state law.

Thank You! Your Continued Support of Riverside Is Greatly Appreciated.