

Alumni NEWS

December 2013

Featured Alumni Years: 1966 & 1994

Stories, photos & more!

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other issues you
may have missed!



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Upcoming Events & Information

Holiday Break Dec. 24-Jan. 2
Winter Quarter Begins Jan. 8
Ag Management Expo, Beatrice Campus. Jan. 14
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, College Closed . . . Jan. 20
End of Winter Quarter Mar. 20

Milford Graduation, 6:30 p.m. Mar. 21
Lincoln Graduation, 7 p.m. Mar. 21
Spring Quarter Begins April 2
Trades & Industry Career Fair, Milford Campus . April 22

Volker Retiring After 34-year Career at SCC



Jeanette Volker figured she would spend her working career in food service or a related industry, but that ended 20 years ago.

On Nov. 25, Volker said goodbye to Southeast Community College

after a 34-year career, the first 14 in food service; the last 20 as vice president for student services/Lincoln Campus director. Jan. 3, 2014, is her last official day.

"I'm going to miss the people, the students," said Volker, a Platte Center native and a 1961 graduate of Columbus High School. "It's been a great journey. I never thought I'd have the opportunity to do all of these things. It's been a great experience."

Volker's longevity with SCC surpasses all but a handful of employees who worked alongside her at 8800 O St. when she started in January 1980 as the Food Service program supervisor and instructor. She's held just three positions at SCC since: dean of the Family & Consumer Sciences Division from 1982-1994, interim president of the Lincoln Campus from 1994-1996, and her current title.

Food and family

Jeanette Hake was the oldest of five children raised on the family farm just outside of Platte Center. Her 95-year-old mother, Irene, still lives there. Jeanette knew her way around the kitchen at an early age. Her mother helped Jeanette's father, leaving the eldest to prepare meals for the family and for the hired men who would help the Hakes complete various farm activities.

"I had an aunt who was a dietitian years ago, and I like to eat," said Volker, partially explaining why she became interested in the food service industry.

She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in food and nutrition from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1965 and completed an internship with the U.S. Public Health Service in New York the following year.

"I had a wonderful experience in New York," she said. "It was good for me to experience new cultures. Coming from a farm in Nebraska, I got to see all kinds of things I'd never seen before."

While in New York, Hake became a member of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps. As one of the seven uniformed services of the United States, the Commissioned Corps fills the role of protecting the nation's public health.

Missouri and back to N.Y.

In 1966, Hake married Lee Volker, a southeast Nebraska native who had his sights set on

becoming a veterinarian. The couple moved to Columbia, Mo., where Lee was finishing a master's degree, followed by four years of veterinary school.

While in Columbia Jeanette worked a year as a therapeutic dietitian and assistant instructor at the University of Missouri Medical Center. Then she worked four years as food service director for the Student Health Service at MU.

In 1971, Lee earned his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree, and the Volkerts moved to New York. From 1972-1977, Jeanette worked part-time as a hospital and nursing home consultant for Johnstown Hospital and Wells House Nursing Home, both in Johnstown, N.Y., and for Community Hospital in Cobleskill and for Palatine Nursing Home in Palatine Bridge, N.Y.

In 1977 the couple moved back to Nebraska.

Graduate school and SCC

For two years, beginning in 1978, Jeanette served as a graduate assistant in the College of Home Economics while working on her master's degree in adult and continuing education from UNL. Teaching still did not appear to be in Volker's future.

"Although I had been teaching an Intro to Food Service class at UNL, I had very little classroom teaching experience when I started at SCC," Jeanette said.

She recalled her first day at Southeast.

"I was overwhelmed," Volker said. "I didn't know where my office was, and when I walked in my first day of class a student raised his hand and said, 'You have to sign my time sheet for the job corps.' Another said, 'You're supposed to register us.' And another said, 'Do we have to call you Mrs. Volker? How about Jeanette?' I said that was fine. I told them that in Missouri it was 'Mrs. Volker, ma'am.'"

She was a registered dietitian and a licensed medical nutrition therapist when she came to SCC. There were fewer than 30 students in SCC's food service program in 1980. Today there are more than 180.

In 1982 Volker became dean of the Family & Consumer Sciences Division (home economics), yet still taught some food service and child development classes. She remained in that job for 12 years.

Head of the campus

In 1994 Volker was presented with a unique opportunity. Three administrative positions were available on the Lincoln Campus responsible for student services, instruction and technology. Volker chose student services and actually became interim president of the Lincoln Campus in 1994, the same year Dr. Jack Huck was named interim chancellor, and later president, of the entire College.

"I was told I would be interim for four to five months," Volker said. "It really was baptism by fire."

The "interim" title lasted two years.

Vice president

In 1996 the "interim" in her title gave way to vice president for student services and Lincoln Campus director, the title on her business cards today. She coordinates the day-to-day operation of the campus and provides senior leadership for all of SCC's Student Services Division. She's deeply involved in facilities, including maintenance, upgrades and new construction, and she directs and coordinated long-range planning for the campus, keeping SCC's mission, goals and objectives in mind.

Volker discussed her legacy.

"I don't know if I am leaving a legacy, but I always tried to look to the future and embrace change," she said. "I look at the past and say yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, and today is a gift. That's why it's called the present. Open it, and after enjoy it."

"I always looked forward to coming to work. Students are what we're all about."

Volker said she's proud to have worked for "a great educational institution that is accountable to students."

Volker has countless fond memories, but one occurs at the end of every quarter. She has participated in approximately 80 graduation exercises as campus administrator.

"I get excited about graduation," she said. "When I hear the music, I think, 'my gosh, these students are just starting out.' We've had so many students go on and do great things. It's always rewarding to see the impact SCC has had on students."

In retirement

"We're going to travel," Volker said when asked about retirement. "I've got a new grandbaby, my 95-year-old mother still lives on the family farm, and there are some places that we'd like to see. We'd like to go to Hawaii, my brother lives in Belize (a country on the northeastern coast of Central America), and I have a niece who lives in Vietnam. And we'd like to go back to Alaska."

The Volkerts have two children, son Neil and wife Erika Volker in Omaha, and daughter Stacy and husband Jeff Wilson in New York, and three grandchildren: Tatum and Thayer Wilson and their newest grandchild, Reagan Elizabeth Volker.

Jeanette's husband, Lee, has been retired four years, so she figured it was time to join him.

"He's spent a lot of time fixing up the farm where he grew up, so I don't know how much we'll see of each other," Jeanette joked. "I don't know, maybe that's a good thing."

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Board of Governors

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BEATRICE CAMPUS

Leadership Opportunities in the SCC Ag Program

Youth Education Director, **Kyla Wize**, announced the Nebraska Pork Producers Association 14th Pork Industry Mentoring Class of six students which helps develop youth leaders through hands-on learning experiences and leadership development. Class members attend college at Creighton University, Southeast Community College in Beatrice, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Wayne State College. Academic majors include animal science, agri-business, pre-nursing, and emergency medical services. Mentors will receive a \$500 scholarship upon the completion of the program.

Current students Thane Motis, Geneva, NE, and Breanna Sensibaugh, Ceresco, NE, both started at SCC in October 2012. SCC has supported this program for the last 10 years. Students who are selected to be a part of the Pork Industry Mentoring Class go into the community to promote the swine industry. Breanna shared some of her experiences. Part of her mentoring in the program came at the World Pork Expo in Des Moines, IA, when the class had a one-day PQA program. The next day they were in charge of training 4-H participants ages 8-10 on Pork Quality Assurance. Part of the training included learning to give shots (a mixture of food coloring and water) to oranges and bananas. After the shots the 4-Hers opened the fruit to see where the “shot” went.

The class volunteered at a food bank in Lincoln and the VIP tent at Ribfest in Lincoln. Breanna said she probably never would have gone to Ribfest if it hadn't been for the Pork Producers' mentoring class.

Each class participant has to complete three job shadows. Breanna has chosen a veterinarian, a feed representative at a coop and is undecided on her third. They also must write eight blogs (five finished, three to go) and three self-monitored events. She served as the swine superintendent at the Saunders County Fair, worked the “Life on the Farm,” showing the pigs at the Gage County Fair,



Gage County Agriculture Awareness Festival

Breanna is teaching students about the wholesale and retail cuts of pork. Additionally students learned that we use “everything but the oink,” so byproducts from pigs are very important too. Thane talked about how pigs grow.

and volunteered/worked at the State Fair in the Pork Producers' booth. The live farrowing demonstration at the Nebraska State Fair was her final event.

When asked how she got into the Pork Industry Mentoring Class, Breanna said, “A girl I knew from high school told me about it, and almost as soon as I came to SCC, Lynn Schlake handed me the application. I filled it out in November and heard in the first week of January that I was accepted into the class. I think it's a good experience. I got to do things I wouldn't have without the mentoring class. I met a lot of new people, and this year I mentored at the Pork World Expo instead of being an exhibitor. I liked working with the younger kids and teaching them PQA.”

If Breanna had a chance to encourage SCC students to apply, she said she would tell them

about “all the different things you get to do.” There's always a three-day trip for the class (she was only able to participate in one due to her schedule). Her one day included a trip to Single Barrel in Lincoln, where they were shown a whole hog being cut up and prepared for the restaurant, as well as brats being made and later cooked and served to the class.”

Kyla Wize said, “Breanna has been a tremendous asset to the program and the pork industry in Nebraska. She is eager to volunteer and serves as a fantastic role model for young showmen because of her knowledge and up-beat attitude.”

Some of SCC's alumni who participated in the program are: Carl Jacobson, Geneva, NE, 2012; Austin Rathman, Farwell, NE, 2011; Lynette Pallas, Western, NE, 2010; and Benjamin Hollman, Lyons, NE, 2009.

CATCHING UP from Prior Newsletters

Last we heard from **Philip Eisenhauer** (FJC 1951) he and his wife, Patricia, were set to go traveling overseas again. His latest update says “Multiple visits to Guatemala, now organizing a construction team for Habitat for Humanity in July, 2014.” We are lucky that retirement means different things to different people.

Jeanette Milius (SCC Fairbury 1979) was accepted in the Ph.D. program, Leadership & Higher Education, at UNL in April 2013.

TV series released in 1994



“Friends,” “ER,” “Babylon 5,” “Party of Five,” “Ellen,” “Touched by an Angel,” “Chicago Hope,” “Sister, Sister,” “Weird Science,” & “Heartbreak High”

TV series that began in 1966

“Star Trek,” “Batman,” “Mission Impossible,” “Dark Shadows,” “Family Affair,” “That Girl,” “The Newlywed Game,” “The Monkees,” “The Rat Patrol,” & “The Time Tunnel”

In Their Own Words...



“I thought I was going back home to farm. That’s what I thought about during high school, so I took all the shop classes I could and avoided the tougher classes. Those plans put me behind when I got to college. Thankfully, smaller classes and individual attention from instructors pulled me up to speed. I graduated in 1994 from the Beatrice Campus, but the plans to return home to farm were not looking good. Three of my brothers were already working on the family farm, and adding another person was going to be a stretch.

I transferred to Wayne State College to work on a degree in business with a focus in ag-business. Before my senior year I started



Front left to right: Jeri, Jayden, Cory, Jagger
In back: Desire

a business that was similar to Amway called Equinox. I found out just how difficult it was to own a business. I lost tons of money in two years and built up \$60,000 of credit card debt. I also had \$500,000 in leases on buildings that I couldn’t pay. After that attempt of being my own boss, I returned to Wayne State and finished my degree.

My college roommate had opened a GNC franchise, and I decided to open one in Beatrice. I stayed with that store about one year, and then opened a second store in Omaha. While in Beatrice I met my wife, Jeri Stephens. Together we opened 15 more stores all over the country. We had stores in Omaha, Des Moines, Fort Collins, and Cedar Rapids, to name a few.

Even though Equinox was a failure at the time, the company went out of business and carried a product that was very good. When the company went out of business, I bought 20,000 bottles of its weight-loss product, relabeled it, and I started a wholesale nutrition company, selling products to GNC. We built this wholesale nutrition company and sold it six years later to a publicly-traded company, Bond Labs. At that time we also sold our 15 GNC franchises. One year later we started Complete Nutrition and had four stores in Omaha. About six years ago, and just two years into the beginning of Complete Nutrition, we franchised the business.

Today we have 180 stores open in 38 states. Our goal is to open 40 stores a year. We are headquartered in Omaha and employ 50 people at our home office.

We’ve been listed as the fastest-growing

company in Nebraska in Inc. magazine’s 500 fastest-growing companies each of the last two years. I’ve been on Fox News talking about our fast growth, and last year we did “Be the Boss,” a TV show by the same people who produced “Undercover Boss.” Our business was the first competition on the show, which brings in two employees who are competing for a vice president position. Unknown to the competitors was that the competitor who did not win was still going to receive a prize: a free Complete Nutrition franchise.

I still say the personal attention I received at SCC helped me a lot. It gave me the confidence to further my education, and the attention given to students, especially someone like me from small-town Hebron, was so important.

If a student is interested in starting a business, my advice is to be open-minded, ask lots of questions and don’t be afraid to fail. Even if you have to live in a relative’s basement for a while, learn to overcome, persist through the tough times, believe in yourself, and follow your heart.

I chose my career path because I desired to live a healthy lifestyle. Jeri and I live in Omaha with our children, 3-year-old Jagger and 4-year old-Jayden. My step-daughter, Desire, is a junior at UNL and is on the gymnastics team.

I enjoy spending time with my large family, and I still love the farm. In fact, I have purchased numerous farm parcels. I’m also an avid hunter, and I love to spend time outdoors.”

Cory Wiedel, Academic Transfer 1994

LPNAN Wins Impact Award

At the annual LPNAN Convention in Kearney, the SCC Beatrice chapter won the 2013 Student LPNAN Impact Award. This award is given based on the chapter’s community service and student activities to promote practical nursing education. This is the third year the Impact Award has been given, and the Beatrice Chapter has won it twice. Their activities for community service included raising money to send to a nursing school in Tanzania where along with support from other schools helped the Tanzanian school to increase their enrollment of nursing students.



SCC Beatrice Campus Practical Nursing program students posing with the awards are, from left, Amanda Wolken, Lincoln; Tess Schumacher, Gordon; Dominique Jones, Kansas City, Mo.; Enid Lassley, Beatrice; and Allen Maatsch, Beatrice.

The LPNAN students raise money annually to give a scholarship to a fellow classmate to assist with paying for school. Other activities by the organization include food drives and a mitten and hat drive for Head Start located on the Beatrice Campus.

Karen Stevens, an instructor in SCC’s Practical Nursing program in Beatrice and one of the organization’s advisors, nominated the student organization for the award. Fellow Instructor Pat Lorenz also serves as an advisor to the student organization.

Stevens shared why she and Lorenz believe the Beatrice LPNAN student organization stands out. “The organization reflects the intention that it is so important to instill the ideals of professionalism in a student right from the beginning of their education,” Stevens said. “Ideals of caring, dignity, advocacy, accountability, holism, and ethics play an intricate role in day to day activities of nurses.”

BEATRICE CAMPUS

2013 Ag Career Fair

Employers and universities visited the Beatrice Campus in October and took advantage of the morning to talk with students from all quarters inside the Truman Center Gymnasium.

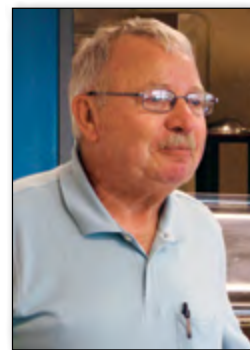


Doug Wagner, (on right) 1987 grad returns to work at the USDA-NRCS table at the 2013 Ag Career Fair.

Instructors and students took their time going from table to table to talk about opportunities in the agriculture field, whether it was to learn about internships, future full-time employment, current part-time jobs, or continuing education, or simply to learn what the industry offers. Occasionally students discover careers in agriculture that had never crossed their minds.

Each year a few SCC alumni return for the Ag Career Fair, some to job hunt, but more and more as representatives of employers who are seeking good employee candidates. James Banahan, 2006, United Farmers Cooperative; Tom Nieveen, 1980, Crop Production Services; Bill Nejezchleb, 1998, Fairfield Coop; Jared Himmelberg, 2012, Crop Production Services; Doug Wagner, 1987, USDA-NRCS; Jenny Hoffman, 2010, (Academic Transfer) Lone Creek Cattle Company; and Jessi Thiede-Colgrove, 2000 (Laboratory Science), were among the SCC alumni who attended the fair.

Charlie Whitehead Retired in August



When Charlie Whitehead applied for the Maintenance Worker II position on the Beatrice Campus in 1991, then campus director, Dennis Headrick, wondered if he should hire him. Dennis had worked

for a number of years with Charlie's wife at the Beatrice State Developmental Center and knew if Charlie slacked off he could call Jan and she would set him straight.

After Charlie became the physical plant director, he and Dennis would walk the campus every spring to see what was needed. No notes were taken; Charlie just kept it in his head. Eventually, Stacey Barnard-Dorn accompanied them and took notes of what was decided and then Assistant Campus Director Bob Morgan joined the group. "So how many administrators does it take to make a list?" asked Headrick. Morgan stated that after he became campus director he finally understood why Charlie was in the office every morning at 8. It was time to report on what was happening or had happened. When things go right, Charlie says it was all due to the team of maintenance workers on his staff. Asked what his worst experience at SCC was during his 22 years with the College, he immediately answered "the flood of 1996." It was the indoor flood of Kennedy Center after the tornado on graduation night, May 8, 1996.

Featured Year: 1966 Quotes

“When I went back to complete my bachelor's degree at Pittsburg State University (Kansas) 10 years after graduating from Fairbury, all my hours transferred toward my degree. This was a plus because I did not have to repeat any classes.”

Sylvia Joy (Yung) Barta, Academic Transfer, Fairbury

“ (My education) allowed me to transfer to Kearney State College successfully leading to my 42-year career in public education.” Jerome Lobner is retired after 42 years of teaching in Nebraska schools.

Jerome Lobner, Academic Transfer, Fairbury

“ I think the smaller classes at Fairbury helped me make a transition to the University of Nebraska. It also helped me manage my study time and overall time better.

I think the instructor/student relationship at the community college helped me to be a better instructor and a better listener for my brokerage customers.” John has retired from Vo-Ag teaching and banking.

John Blas, Agriculture, Fairbury

Featured Year: 1994 Quotes

“ It was a stepping stone that started me into a career of caring. I'm an RN, BRN. It has helped me believe in myself.” Sue now works for a dermatologist after a number of years as a nurse for a homecare service.

Sue (Susan) (Kampschnieder) Hansen, Practical Nursing, Beatrice

“ I continued my education, earning a bachelor's degree in business and a master's in hospital administration.” Carol works as the CEO/president of a medical center.

Carol (Behrends) Friesen, Agriculture Business & Management Technology, Beatrice

“ I enjoyed the community college setting and opportunities to participate in activities. I also learned that a teacher who cared could make all the difference for a student's future success. I like striving to be that teacher.” Jody works at a community college out of state as a sociology instructor and a Phi Theta Kappa sponsor.

Jody Nedley-Newcomb, Academic Transfer – Psychology, Beatrice

“ It gave me the ability to be a nurse and not a nurse's aide and further my career in the nursing field.” Tim works for a homecare company that does patient care for children.

Timothy Summerlin, Practical Nursing, Beatrice

Returned Birthday Cards



Did we tell you how special it is to have you return your birthday cards with updates and news about you, your job, your family and more?

Right now my favorite job title since the last issue is "Pumpkin Pickin' Expert." I think that alumnus loves their job, and who could blame them? What's the job title seen most often on these cards? "Retired," and they seem so happy about it that you can almost hear it coming from the card! No one says they are heading for the rocking chair, though many have plans to "spoil the grandkids," travel to visit children and grandchildren, travel to see the sights, and travel outside the United States.

We want to hear how those post-retirement plans are working. Our graduates' lives beyond FJC and SCC are very interesting to us. Hope to hear from you soon.

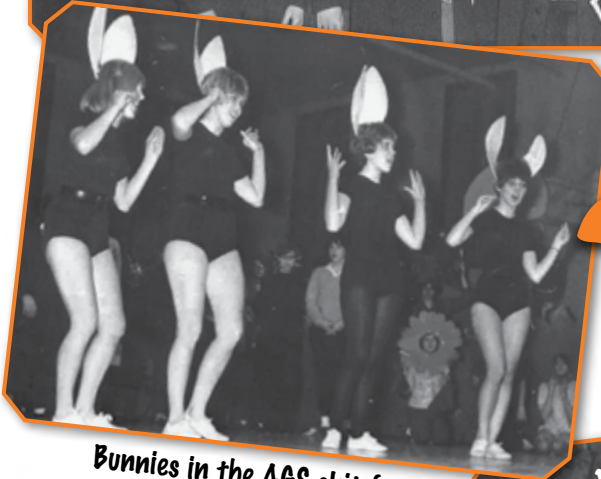


Executive Council 1965-1966



1965 Skit
"The Lark & Her
Young Ones"

1966



Bunnies in the A&S skit for
College Capers



Crystal Springs
Hobo Party



1965 Homecoming

Former Fairbury Junior College/ Southeast Community College Instructor Passes Away

Frank W. Phelps passed away November 7, 2013 at the age of 97 at Gardenside Long Term Care in Fairbury. He was born June 16, 1916 at Blanca, CO. He was a WW II Army Veteran. Mr. Phelps received his BA and MA degrees at Colorado College and enjoyed bowling, amateur carpentry and music to relax when he wasn't teaching Chemistry and Math at Fairbury Junior College and then Southeast Community College. His career with the college spanned five decades from 1947 to 1982.

In Memory of...

Beatrice

Lori Brandt (Practical Nursing, 1993)
Leoris Habrich (Practical Nursing, 1989)
Amanda Kay (Heath) Johnson
(Business Administration, 2003)
Phillip Schoen (Agriculture, 2012)

Fairbury

Donald E. Benchik (Pre-law, 1966)
Carol Ann (Heitmann) Swan (Secretarial Education, 1966)
Dorothy (Flagle) Portwood (Academic Transfer, 1943)
Dr. Keith Beeman (Pre-Veterinarian, 1954)
Dr. Fred Kottmeyer, DDS (Pre-Dentistry, 1961)
Frank W. Phelps (retired instructor at FJC)
Kay (Van Sickler) Finke, (Academic Transfer, 1961)

Can You Help Us Locate the Following 1966 Graduates?

We want to stay in touch with our grads!

Email information to alumni@setheast.edu or call 800-233-5027 ext. 1216.

Linda Andersen	Judith Craig	Winona Howell	Linda Powell	
Richard Bales	Arthur Cramer	Darrel Johnson	Katherine Regnier	
Ronnie Bartels	Larry Dow	Robert Lucking	Steven Rippe	
Keith Bartlett	Daniel Drees	Stanley Michels	Sandra Roesler	Keith Thomas
James Beck	Harry Elder	Ronald Miller	Leola Rosenthal	Georgellen Vogl
Stanley Bigos	Cheryl English	Galen Napier	Boyd Scarrow	Connie Ward
Carol Blobaum	Ronald Fangmeier	George Nunns	Dennis Schrock	Kay Kisling
Sharon Brunick	Russell Garman	Michael Otte	Lonnie Schwisow	Wasserman
Gary Carlson	Lucinda Grueber	Ardyth Otto	Dolores Seballos	Karen Winter
Dean Ceclre	Donald Harvey	Robert Parker	Alex Siejka	Nelson Zoubek
Billy Clark	Carol Heitmann	Melvin Pike	Stephen Smith	



Can You Help Us Locate the Following 1994 Graduates?

Connie Baehr	Cheryl Denner	Michele Kuhlmann	Donna Sailors	Sheila Stern
Deanna Bence	Brett Duerfeldt	Judy Laffin	Brian Schmidt	Lori Swanigan
Susan Benker	Tammy Dush	Todd Leopold	Lisa Schroeder	Olga Usov
Ryan Birkett	Kelly Jay	David Lubben	Carmen Shelburne	Susan Vail
Sandra Blumer	Scott Jones	Carolyn Penner	Ayyaz Siddiqui	Allison Vyhnaek
Mary Burns	Aletha Kampe	Stephanie Peterson	Angelika Sipe	Darren Warner
Diane Church	Marcia Koehler	Patty Pytlik	Todd Slama	Kirt Watson

Life Path Brings Rewards for Grendahl



Clarence Grendahl can clearly say, “been there, done that” as he works with clients who struggle with substance abuse and addiction at Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach. As substance abuse program coordinator, Grendahl

provides and coordinates free drug and alcohol evaluation services, support, counseling, referral, and advocacy for the working poor and homeless.

He began regularly drinking at 16 with his high school buddies, cruising O Street on the weekends. By 19, Clarence started a construction business that progressed to building custom homes. His drinking also progressed. He married, had children and seemingly was on the road to success. But he drank to the point of losing work and his family. When he was introduced to methamphetamine in 1999, he saw it as a “cure all” for what alcohol had dissolved

away. “What started as a fix to all my problems quickly became a whole new nightmare,” Grendahl said. He stopped working, paying bills, taking care of his house, and himself. By early 2004, using and making methamphetamine was all that was important to him. He was pulled over one cold February morning for not having license plates on his van. A search of the van led to Clarence’s arrest for possession of methamphetamine. It also led law enforcement to his farm house and the “meth lab.” The arrest was a catalyst to his recovery. “I still call Andy, the Lancaster County Deputy, every February to thank him for arresting me that morning.”

After completing treatment at Valley Hope in O’Neill and a halfway house in Hastings, Grendahl spent three-and-a-half years in Yankton Federal Prison Camp for his crimes. He knew he wanted to use his past for something positive and wanted to give back. With goals in place, he completed his degree in Human Services, Alcohol and Drug Counseling, in March 2010. Throughout his schooling at SCC, he worked

as a technician at Touchstone Short-Term Residential Treatment facility. After receiving his Provisional Alcohol and Drug License, he accepted a job as one of Touchstone’s primary counselors. In 2012, he moved to Houses of Hope, a men’s halfway house, as he accepted the position of intake counselor.

He recently passed Nebraska’s state licensure exam as a LADC (Licensed Alcohol & Drug Counselor). Now Clarence can work toward goals of expanding Matt Talbot’s substance abuse program called “CARE.” “My past doesn’t define who I am now,” he said. “It has shaped who I am, but I use it as a benefit rather than a roadblock.” Offering hope, showing clients they can succeed and watching them stay sober as they lead productive lives are all rewarding aspects of his current position. Executive director of Matt Talbot, Susanne Blue, CMSW, said, “We think Clarence’s story is a powerful example that with hard work, determination and support from the community, you can overcome addiction.” For more information on Matt Talbot and the “CARE” program, visit: www.mtkserver.org.

Randall Selects Interesting Career Path



Mathematicians have been exploring the mysteries of music for centuries.

Genevieve Randall doesn’t define herself as a mathematician, but she does agree that she really enjoys balance and order

in her life. As an announcer on NET Radio, it is very clear she also is a musician who is creative and expressive. Randall received a Bachelor of Music in Flute Performance from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1996 and an associate degree in Business Administration with an accounting focus from Southeast Community College in 2001.

“When I started classes at Southeast Community College, I was working two part-time jobs. One job was a private flute teacher, and the other was with Open Harvest Natural Food Co-op. I wanted to be able to work in the office at Open Harvest and also be able to manage my flute studio on my own without paying a bookkeeper or tax preparer. SCC seemed like an economical and practical choice,” Randall said.

Randall’s responsibilities grew from assisting the bookkeeper at Open Harvest

to office manager, where she managed a database for co-op members, hired and supervised the office assistant, oversaw the cashier’s reconciliation of cash drawers, and made bank deposits. “The job fed my practical side. I was able to categorize transactions; and I loved the neat look of a balance sheet, the tidy chart of accounts, and logic of double-entry accounting.” While working at Open Harvest she was asked by the founder of the Meadowlark Music Festival to be her office manager and bookkeeper.

She also volunteered for a short time helping keep the books for the Nebraska Flute Club.

After leaving Open Harvest she accepted a position as a bookkeeper for the Christian Church in Nebraska. Although Randall is not specifically using her bookkeeping skills at NET Radio, the accounting and business administration background have been helpful in a greater understanding of the big picture at the radio station. Randall is grateful to Stan Peters for the sound instruction in economics, investments and insurance.

As you listen to Randall hosting the NPR news program, All Things Considered, or the locally produced programs, Nebraska Concerts and The Verge, you will have “the rest of the story!”

Kara Knutson Memorial Scholarship

Mandy Sipes, 2013 Associate Degree Nursing



summer graduate, was the recipient of the Kara Knutson Memorial Scholarship, which is available annually to a graduating student in the last quarter of the program. Sipes

expressed her gratitude for the scholarship. “I am so grateful for this scholarship. It has assisted with my NCLEX prep course and has enabled me to continue my education at Nebraska Wesleyan University for my BSN.” Kara’s parents, Richard and Kay Knutson of Alma, NE, established this scholarship as a memorial to their daughter, a 2006 graduate of the Associate Degree Nursing program. SCC extends a special thank you to the Knutsons for their generosity in establishing this scholarship.



Back in Time With Jerry Gruber



Jerry Gruber's first job after graduating from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1964 was a job placement specialist for the Department of Labor in Omaha. In many ways that job set the course for his lifelong career.

Gruber returned to Lincoln and was promoted to director of development and training for Manpower. He completed his master's degree in 1967 and began teaching business classes at Lincoln High School and Lincoln Technical College.

In 1973, the Nebraska Legislature passed legislation establishing the community college system in Nebraska. Gruber had his eye on this new development. Dr. Robert Eicher was hired as president of Southeast Community College, and Dr. Jim Lightbody was the Lincoln Campus director. Gruber recalls that he had "great confidence in Dr. Eicher's leadership and plans for the newly created

community college." An offer to serve as the job placement coordinator for the SCC Lincoln Campus gave him an opportunity to use his experience in the business world and also blend his teaching experience. In 1974 Gruber accepted an appointment as dean of student services, a position he held for 26 years before retiring in 2000.

Initial goals as dean were to increase student enrollment, develop and implement student operational policies and procedures needed in a newly created educational institution, and help the public and potential students recognize SCC as a quality college. "I was heavily involved in marketing and promotional efforts of a new college and am pleased to see that SCC has achieved the recognition it deserves in higher education," he said.

Gruber was actively involved with the Nebraska Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, having served as president in 1983-84, and was awarded an honorary lifetime membership.

He worked with students from a variety of backgrounds, especially non-traditional students, who comprised the majority

of students enrolled at SCC during the formative years. "I truly enjoyed working with that population of students and continue to encounter former students who have completed their studies and remain in the Lincoln community," he said.

After retirement, he accepted a customer relations representative position (Red Coat) at the Lincoln Airport and enjoys the contact with travelers and occasionally meeting individuals associated with SCC. Working two days a week over the past 12 years is just the right pace. Much of his time involves family activities with his wife of 48 years and his two sons and their families, including four grandchildren. He continues to travel throughout the country, has been active in the Lincoln Senior Golf League, and serves as an usher at his church.

"I am still a firm believer in community colleges and am pleased to see they are now recognized as viable alternatives to four-year colleges and universities. I see a bright future for Southeast Community College," Gruber said.

Thanks, Jerry, for your dedication, hard work and leadership provided during your tenure at Southeast Community College.

Welding Program Supports Global Industrial Training



The Welding Technology program on the Lincoln Campus played an important role in the preparation and welding of specimens for the production of the Welding Symbol and Practical Welding Video, an international forum seen globally by employees of Valmont Industries, Inc.

Director of Core Competencies for Valmont Industries, Jerome Sercl, requested a former SCC welding technology employee and program chair to help develop and deliver a Welding

Symbol 30-minute forum for a global audience.

Sercl requested that the presentation include preparation of joints for welding, tacking of joints and welding of the joints. Arend Nyland, Welding Technology instructor, graciously agreed to make the welds and was filmed completing the welding of the joints for the video. Through the efforts of several welding students and welding instructors, videotaping was completed in the welding laboratory on the Lincoln Campus by Sercl and Core Competencies Technical Analyst Michael Bolgar.

SCC welding instructors assisted in identifying technical sources and shared the information with the presenter for the 30-minute forum. Both the American Welding Society and International Standard Organization standards were used as they related to symbols used in Valmont's domestic and foreign facilities. The videos were incorporated into a technical welding symbol presentation that will be viewed in Africa, China, Europe, Malaysia, India, Australia, and the Americas.

Firestone Scholarship Donation Appreciated

Kevin Casey, technical education coordinator for Firestone, presented a \$1,500 check to Ken Jefferson, program chair for Automotive Technology, to be used for a scholarship for either the Lincoln or Milford campus Automotive Technology program. Thank you, Firestone! SCC appreciates your support.

Pictured: L, Kevin Casey; R, Ken Jefferson.



We are in the process of selecting a 10+ year Distinguished Alumni from the Lincoln Campus. Do you have a classmate you would like to see honored? Please contact Lynn Willey, Placement Office, at lwilley@southeast.edu or 402-437-2622 for more information.



From the Mailbox

Becoming an RN was the best choice I ever made! I love my job at Sutton, Linder & Sutton.

JoAnna Fenicle, 1998 Associate Degree Nursing

LINCOLN CAMPUS

Dual Degrees Forge Long-Time Business for Dorene (Duganitz) Miller



"In 1974 career choices for females were limited. My stint as a medic with the Air National Guard affirmed that I wanted to pursue a health care career, and upon returning to Lincoln I completed the Southeast Community College Operating Room Technology program (now Surgical Technology program). My first job as a surgical technologist in 1976 was at Saint Elizabeth Hospital, now Saint Elizabeth Regional Medical Center. After completing my three-year Air National Guard enlistment, I was offered a weekend position as a surgical technologist at Offutt with the Air Force Reserves.

Wanting to try something new, I accepted a dental lab technician trainee position and began in the crown and bridge department and eventually moved to the denture side. It was a culture shock to come from an all-sterile environment to the manufacturing side! Those were pre-AIDS days, and today the sanitation has significantly changed.

My mother instilled the value of education in me and my sisters. My father died when I was 9 years old, and I didn't have a role model to teach me the basics about construction. I knew nothing about houses, other than I would like to own one, and I wanted to help my mother care for hers. I enrolled in Building Construction on the Milford Campus, and my instructors understood that I was taking the course for my personal knowledge. I was the only female in the class and a non-traditional student. It was a very difficult year and a half, but the guys in the class were great. My spiral notebook contained notes that I used over and over again throughout the years. I am especially proud of being able to help my husband lay out and jack rafters for roofs in his construction business.

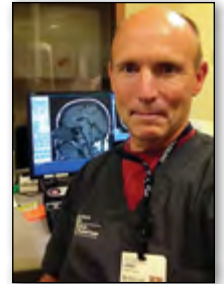
For a brief time in the early 1980s, I returned to work as a surgical technologist. With young children and a husband working out of town, it was difficult to maintain the hours. My husband encouraged me to start a small lab at home, and that was the point where my two degrees came into play.

It took a lot of determination to succeed in this business. Each orthodontist had his own style on how they liked their appliances made. This was an easy transition as it was not much different from the operating room where surgeons had their favorite instruments for certain procedures. Now responsible for marketing my business, I learned to present myself and persevere. I would not have completed Building Construction if I had not learned those skills. My business is a very niche business, and it took a long time to even make a paycheck. I am a certified dental technician with a specialty in orthodontics. My business, Orthodontics Only LLC, is a combination of both health care and manufacturing. Equipment and materials are continually evolving, but one thing remains certain: I consistently use skills from both degrees each day. Not only do I use my hands, but I have to be able to make design changes for special cases. This can involve some of the same forces you may encounter in building. The steps are very specific to fabrication, and there is minimal room for variables.

At the time I completed my SCC degrees, I did not envision that the two would blend and I would use those skills for 25 years in my small business. I wouldn't call my life exciting, but I am very proud of my accomplishments. My dual degrees have served me well!"

Radiology Career Grows and Changes

Larry Kohmetscher



can tell you about the state's first magnetic imaging center in Lincoln and Omaha. He was one of the first employees hired at each center. Not only did he grow with the company, but he continued to gain skills in a technology new to Nebraska. Over his 29-year radiologic technology career, he has seen major changes in technology and equipment. MRIs grew from analog solid-state with huge equipment rooms to HD high-resolution images available in less than one-half the time. Magnet technology went from non-shielded MRI rooms to shielded. Kohmetscher explained, "The list goes on as fast and far as the computer age has been around."

As a nationally certified MRI technologist, Kohmetscher has worked at Saint Elizabeth Regional Medical Center for 24 years, working with a great team of technologists. Additionally, he serves on the department leadership, MRI and hospital safety teams.

Continuing to be involved with Southeast Community College is one of his priorities. SERMC provides a clinical site for current students, and he has served on the advisory committee several times over the years.

"In 1981 I was discharged from the Air Force, where I worked in electronics," Kohmetscher said. "I enjoyed that field, but I needed something more personable. I shadowed my best friend's mother, who was a radiologic technologist at Lincoln General Hospital. As we toured all of the areas, I immediately knew this was it! This profession is all about the people you serve and work with on a daily basis. I have never looked back, continue to be challenged and am grateful to be blessed with a career I love."



1994 Radiologic Technology Graduates

Back Row:

Connie Lyon (instructor), Mike Cronk, Doug Lintz, Mike Wolfe, Kevin Ponte, Bev Miedlinger (program chair), Gayle Young (instructor)

Front Row:

Jeryl Goertzen, Chris McCarty, Rita Pecenka, Janet Uetrecht, Vicky Haller, Gloria Burkey



Early Childhood Education Graduate Finds Dream Job

Can you imagine a career that includes writing protocols for standard operating procedures for multiple law enforcement agencies, presenting to a hundred of your colleagues alongside a world-renowned physician, being considered an expert witness, or developing a trauma program for children of maltreatment? I don't have to imagine it, I lived it! And it all started with my Associate of Applied Science degree in Early Childhood Education from SCC.

I wish I could say that choosing to attend this program was well planned and carefully considered. The reality is simply that I had chosen to not pursue higher education after high school. Thankfully, my parents are not as Bohemian a thinker as I am, and in a matter-of-fact manner stated they would not support me in any decision I made which did not include some sort of post-high school education. Having done no planning or preparing for college, but being wise enough to recognize a big impersonal university was not a good match for my personality at that time, and feeling like I wanted to do something with children, SCC seemed like a good compromise. I, clearly, had no idea what a springboard this education would be for me!

I am thankful to finally be in a place of following my passion: bringing arts, music, and movement to children who have experienced trauma. The journey to this place started with operating a preschool/daycare for many years, detoured to being a nanny on the East Coast, then directed me to obtain both bachelor's and master's degrees in social work, and finally landed me at McLeod Social Service Center in Glencoe, MN, working with struggling families and children who have experienced trauma. The theme throughout the journey, as you can see, is the education from the Early Childhood Education program.

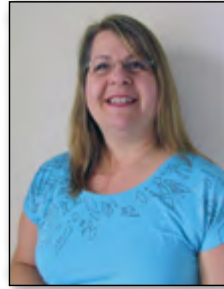
As a social worker working with families and children who have experienced trauma, my job duties include coordinating child protection investigations with local law enforcement, schools and other agencies within the community, educating families about the safety and well-being of the children, working closely with professionals in the court system to give testimony or professional opinions in hearings, preparing documentation to evaluate the needs of a child, and planning and executing programs

for struggling families and children experiencing trauma.

One of the most important, and challenging, aspects of my job is to keep current on the changing philosophies and research regarding child development. This expectation allows me to participate in numerous conferences and trainings. The question is always "how does this information impact families, and how can I use it to help children?" The information, suggested practices and theories are always changing; but the one constant is that children need the opportunity to be children and must be given the opportunities to express themselves safely and creatively by caring adults knowledgeable in child development. The latest research shows that children of abuse and/or neglect, the homeless and the mentally ill are healing through the use of arts, music and movement. With this knowledge I was recently honored to be allowed to develop and implement our first Arts Inspire Day in our community. Children attending were able to participate in Zumba Kids, have fun with multiple types of art hands-on with recycled musical instruments, and participate in Yoga Calm. This was definitely a highlight of my career!

The next path in the journey includes completing licensure in order to provide therapy and obtaining certification in Yoga Calm. I am so fortunate for my parents' insight and for being accepted at SCC!

Theresa Dworak, 1986 graduate, Child Development (now Early Childhood Education)



SCC SkillsUSA National Results

While most SCC students were enjoying the 2013 summer break, three members and two advisors of the SCC Lincoln SkillsUSA Club were attending the 49th annual National SkillsUSA Conference in Kansas City, MO. Competing were **Justin Lammers**, Fire Science Technology; **Mike Selvage**, Precision Machining and Automation Technology; and **Kyle Friedel (pictured below)**, Motorcycle, ATV & Personal Watercraft Technology.

Advisors attending were **Ken Jefferson**, Program Chair for Lincoln campus Automotive Technology and Motorcycle, ATV & Personal Watercraft Technology and **Randy Koch**, Instructor, Precision Machining and Automation Technology.

With almost 6,000 contestants in 98 contest areas, this was the largest SkillsUSA conference to date. Lammers competed with nine nationwide finalists and received a silver medal in Fire Science. Friedel received a bronze medal in Motorcycle Service. Additionally, because of Friedel's medal, SCC received a 2013 Harley Davidson Sportster motorcycle donated for training purposes for the program.



Can You Help Us Locate the Following 1994 Graduates?

We want to stay in touch with our grads!

Email information to alumni@southeast.edu or call 800-642-4075, ext. 2622.

Christina Aldag	Michael Cronk	Jeffrey Hellman	Andrea Meier	
Christopher Alexander	Sandra Davis-Mueller	Robert Hendrick	Pamela Meredith	
Vicki Allen	Sandra Delaney	David Howe	Patti Milbourn-Baker	Heather Schmidt
Jacqueline Andersen	Randy Dickhaut	Helen Johnson	Christina Misfeldt	Stephanie Schultz
Rex Anderson	Harold Dilley	Rania Jozsa	D Royce Mosher	Chad Sears
Ann Anthony	Sri Djaja	Mike Kantanavicius	Victor Nettleton	Ginny Settrini
Cheryl Arrowsmith	Ann Donnelly	Sandra Kempkes	Vickie Nicholson	Bruce Shafer
Kristine Barrett	Karen Dorn	Julie King	Jeffrey Parker	Bonnie Simonson
Christine Beacom	Brenda Dunker	Angi Klein	Donald Parks	David Slama
Melissa Beckstead	Virgene Dunklau	Melisa Kocian	Shad Peniska	Shannon Snyder
Robert Benson	Michael Durham	Mindi Krueger	Dinh Pham	John Speckmann
Stephanie Bjornsen	Martin Fogarty	Kelli Lamprecht	Susan Plessman	Michelle Speed
Lawrine Bohmont	Julie Frazer	Jaci Larkowski	Richard Plummer	Darla Stearns
Jeff Bowen	Diane Frohn	Jeffrey Lindsey	Brenda Preister	John Sullivan
Craig Brown	Jordana Gartner	James Lockard	Rhea Rasp	Beverly Throener
Michelle Bruce	Evelyn Hans	Sherri Lovelace	Linda Rezac	Lee Volkmer
Shaunda Burns	Mark Hansen	Ralph Lyons	Matt Rosenboom	Anthony Wester
Shannon Candler	Mary Harms-Daley	Kathleen Marsh	Angie Rosendale	Jennifer Williams
Veryl Cohen	Angela Hecox	Lynda Siffiring	Ronald Scanlon	Christine Wollam
Tina Couch	Jason Hedges	Mary McCain	Randall Scherzberg	
Nancy Coulter	James Hein	Dan McDonald	Kimberly Schmader	



In Memory of...

Lincoln

Sharon Allder (Business Administration, 1996)
James Bargmann
(Professional Truck Driver Training, 1984)
Susan Masek (Visual Publications, 1989)
Marcia Plihal (Business Administration, 1984)
Paul Young (Human Services, 2004)

MILFORD CAMPUS

Governor, Industry Representatives Help SCC Dedicate Machining Facility

Nebraska Gov. Dave Heineman said manufacturing is making a comeback in Nebraska and across the nation as he took part in the ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony in August for new and remodeled space in SCC's Precision Machining and Automation Technology program on the Milford Campus.

More than 120 industry representatives, elected officials and SCC students, faculty and staff attended the ceremony, held inside the Eicher Technical Center. Heineman, who earlier in the day met with members of the Nebraska Manufacturers Advisory Council on the Milford Campus, said what SCC is doing – training people with skills for jobs in industry – “is so important.”

“It is crucial to keep up with today's ever-changing technology, and this state-of-the-art equipment will do just that,” Heineman said.

New equipment in the laboratory includes an Okuma Genos series lathe, a Haas CNC vertical milling machine, Haas CNC lathe, Haas CNC tool room lathe, and a Fanuc robot.

Dr. Jack Huck, SCC president, welcomed attendees to the \$1.2 million facility. “This represents the culmination of a dream and the evolution of this program,” Huck said. “This facility has turned out beyond our wildest dreams.”

Scott Volk, vice president of MetalQuest Unlimited in Hebron, a member of the program's advisory committee and a 1995 graduate from SCC's Manufacturing Engineering Technology program, said he was proud to be a part of the Precision Machining and Automation Technology program expansion. “This is a state-of-the-art, world-class facility,” Volk said. “Now it's time to get students into the program.”

Michael Schutte, a member of the Milford Campus Student Senate representing the Precision Machining and Automation Technology program, joined the military after high school. He talked about his journey to SCC.

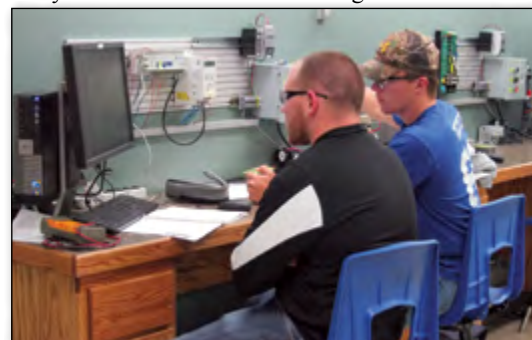
“It took me 10 years to realize that precision machining was my forte,” he said. “Current and future students are lucky to be a part of a program like this. Precision machinists have the ability to do it all.”

Following the short program, Heineman cut the ribbon, and the facility was open to tours.



SCC Thanks Donors

Southeast Community College staff and students have benefited greatly from the generosity of several companies donating money and equipment for the new Robotics and Automation Lab on the Milford Campus. According to Ken Reinsch, program chair for Electrical & Electromechanical Technology, “this has allowed the programs involved to be able to move the education in robotics forward.” Money has been used, in part, to purchase equipment such as small desktop robots and busduct systems and workbenches to further enhance the students learning. Conveyor belts, power distribution systems and mock-up materials have been donated, allowing the instructors to fully engage many facets of the industrial setting within the new lab. A large part of



the destruction and reconstruction of the lab was completed by the Electrical and Electromechanical Technology program students as part of their learning experience.



Thank you... **Ray Bruegman, President of Miller Electric, Omaha, NE; 3M Company, Valley, NE; 3M Company, Nevada, MO; Molex, Lincoln, NE; ADM, Columbus, NE; BD, Columbus, NE; Black & Veatch, Overland Park, KS; Echo Electric, Lincoln, NE; Capital City Electric, Lincoln, NE**



“In the fall of 1967, after graduating from high school, I enrolled at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. I wasn’t sure what I wanted to do with my life, and at that time the popular wisdom was, ‘Just get your degree, and don’t worry, you’ll be able to find a good job.’ That was good enough for me. In high school, I had taken math, physics and chemistry. I got through them, but I didn’t like them, and they were not my strong suit. I was much better at the Social Sciences (geography, history). So, when I got to college, it was natural that I direct my attention to what I was best at and to what I enjoyed most. In 1971, after four years of hard work (and play), I received a B.A. in sociology, with minors in anthropology and geology, graduating with good standing in my class.

After four months of fruitless job-hunting, I was finally successful in securing a job with the state of Nebraska. It was not what I had anticipated, but at that point I was glad to have any job. I married my college sweetheart, and my adult life began in earnest.

As a young man with energy and ambition, I could not endure government employment, so I began to examine my options.

Several years earlier I had helped my father wire a friend’s house, and I found that I liked the combination of doing physical labor, working with my hands, while using my brain to plan and execute electrical systems.

I discovered that Southeast Community College offered a Construction Electrician

course at a very reasonable cost, which could be completed in one year. I applied and took my first step toward a new life.

I found that SCC offered me a suitable combination of theory and hands-on training to allow me to get a job as an apprentice electrician soon after graduation. I worked for several years as an apprentice, and then came upon an opportunity to buy the electrical business of an older gentleman in rural Nebraska who was retiring. I took my exam and became certified as a journeyman “A” electrician and began a career as an electrical contractor. My business went well for five years, then another recession and family matters convinced me that I needed to move to another part of the country where there might be more and better opportunities. I was able to sell my business and moved my family to Seattle, WA.

Within a matter of days after arriving in the Seattle area I was able to find a job with Emerson Electric Co., (a Fortune 100 Company), as an inside salesman of specialty electrical products. Landing this job, in a competitive job market, was due in no small part to the electrical training I received at SCC and to my experience as an electrical contractor. From that point on I advanced in my career and never left the electrical industry. I served as a sales engineer, district manager, product manager, office manager, and operations supervisor. During my career

I worked for five companies in the electrical industry, 20 years of which was with Emerson Electric. I represented many nationally and internationally known products, traveled extensively throughout the United States and had clients in virtually every industry and at every level of authority and responsibility. I was privileged to see things few people get to see and to be a team player on many significant projects. In addition, I worked with and knew many wonderful, intelligent and interesting people. It would be literally impossible to express the width and breadth of my career, which has been very fulfilling, from a professional standpoint.

Finally, two years ago, I was able to retire to pursue new dreams and plans with my wife. This has been facilitated by pension and saving plans which my employers made available. These benefits also are a direct result of my employment in the electrical industry, thanks to SCC.

All this to say, had I not decided to change the course of my life and attend Southeast Community College, I may have missed all of this.

As someone with a lifetime of working wisdom under my belt, I can tell you that SCC will prepare you for an exciting life. So learn all you can while you are there and work hard after you get out. You will excel and will be rewarded for it in many ways.”

Ralph Brock, 1975 Electrical Technology Graduate

Koch Fertilizer LLC Awards Seven Scholarships

Seven Southeast Community College students were recently honored as the first recipients of the Koch Fertilizer Scholarship. Koch Fertilizer LLC established a scholarship fund earlier this year to benefit students in **Electrical & Electromechanical Technology, Electronic Systems Technology** and **Energy Generation Operations** programs at SCC.

Koch is investing \$40,000 for scholarships over a two-year period. “Part of our long-term strategy as a company is to be tapped in and engaged with Southeast Community College,” Andy Parker, talent acquisition leader and development director, said. “Our success going forward depends on it.”



Scholarship recipients pictured with Koch representatives (l-r):

- Lane Dunbar of Taylor (Electrical & Electromechanical);
- Matthew Meyer of Lincoln (Energy Generation Operations);
- Lucas Satorie of Lincoln (Electrical & Electromechanical);
- Jordan Selko of Lincoln (Energy Generation Operations);
- Sheila Williams, recruiting leader, Koch Fertilizer;
- Peter Ralston of Lincoln (Energy Generation Operations);
- Carrie Swartz, recruiter, human resources, Koch Fertilizer;
- Teigan Case of Oakland (Electrical & Electromechanical);
- Phil Joyner, Koch Nitrogen plant manager-Beatrice;
- Michael Bishop of Hayes Center (Electrical & Electromechanical); and
- Andy Parker, talent acquisition leader and development director, Koch Fertilizer

MILFORD CAMPUS

Retirements



After 16 years, **Stan Thorpe** (pictured left), Building Construction Technology program instructor, retired in September. Congratulations Stan for your dedicated service to SCC. We wish you much happiness in your retirement.



Gary Cooper (pictured right) retired after 26 years with SCC as the physical plant superintendent on the Milford Campus. Born and raised near Milford, Cooper joined the Nebraska Air National Guard in 1966 and worked for the city of Milford for 21 years before accepting employment with SCC in 1987. Cooper received the SCC LAMB Award for Outstanding Administrator in 2005, the President's Volunteer Service Award in 2005, the Milford Campus Safety Award in 2007, and recently the 25-Year Service Award. During retirement, Cooper plans to continue to farm near Milford, promote his MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) and RAD (Race Against Drugs) Race Car Project, and cheer for his favorite team, the Minnesota Vikings.

You Are Essential to SCC's Success Congratulations to the following on receiving the 2013 Farmers & Merchants Bank Outstanding Faculty and Staff Award.



From left: **Judy Zieg**, instructor, General Education; **Craig Shaw**, instructor, Auto Collision Repair Technology; **Marcia Van Anandel**, administrative assistant, Placement Office



Those receiving the 25-Year Service Award From left: **Jerry Norris**, instructor, Automotive Technology; **Rick Morphew**, program chair/instructor, Automotive Technology/ASEP/ASSET/MCAP; **Bob Redler**, instructor, Electronic Systems Technology. Not pictured: **Wayne Embrey**, instructor, Automotive & Diesel Technology

Featured Year: 1966 Electronic Data Processing



Gerald Eigsti, Electronic Data Processing instructor, assists a student in class.



John Ahl, Electronic Data Processing instructor, assists students in class.

Featured Year: 1994 – Bob Bowen Retired After 31 Years at SCC



Bob Bowen dedicated 42 years of his life to the auto body industry. He was a student, worked in the industry and became an outstanding instructor and department chair of the SCC Auto Collision program, training approximately 1,200 students.

In September 1952 Bowen enrolled in the Auto Body program at the Nebraska State Trade School in Milford, graduating in June 1954. Over the next nine years he gained experience as an auto body technician in Ord, Crete and Seward, working his way up to a management position. In August 1963 Bowen was asked to come back to Nebraska Vocational Technical School (SCC-Milford) as an instructor. He taught Auto Body basics until 1970. He was then promoted to department chair of the Auto Body program and continued teaching basic welding, fourth-quarter electrical and supervising and working with students on vehicles.

Many former students share their appreciation of Bob Bowen's knowledge, commitment and teaching skills that helped them be successful in their auto body career. Every once in a while a former student will either call and talk to Bob or ask about him when visiting the College. One of Bob's former students became his son-in-law a couple years after graduating from Auto Collision. Like Bob, he worked in a couple body shops and then returned to SCC to teach Auto Collision and has since been promoted to program chair and has the same office. Bob is proud to see how the Auto Collision program has advanced and continues to produce quality technicians.

Bob Bowen was inducted into the Nebraska Auto Body Association Hall of Fame on March 8, 2008.

Bowen retired in 1994 to stay home with his wife, who had a brain tumor which caused short-term memory loss and could not be left alone. He may have retired from his auto body career, but his family and friends have kept him busy repairing and fixing almost anything they bring him. If he can't find a part for something, he makes it! It seems to be a challenge to see if he can fix it.

SCC has been a very significant part of his life and his family's. All five of his children attended and graduated from SCC and have had successful careers, and now the majority of his grandchildren have as well.



In 1953, Bob Bowen, auto body student, answers questions from Governor Crosby during his tour of the campus.

Graduates in the News!

SCC ASEP Instructor Wins International Award



Southeast Community College instructor **Jon Kisby** received the General Motors-Automotive Service Educational Program Technical Award of Merit from

IAG MASEP at the GM-ASEP International Conference in Detroit, MI, in October.

The award is given to faculty members who complete a significant amount of GM training. Jon is 100 percent General Motors trained, a GM World Class Technician, ASE Master Certified plus L1 and Diesel. Jon excels in relationships with students, faculty, GM dealerships and has gone the extra mile for student learning. Jon was nominated and selected by the IAGMASEP board. More than 100 instructors from 72 colleges in four countries are in the IAGMASEP association, with one nomination from each of six regions.

Jon was selected for the award for his knowledge and commitment to students. He is considered one of the best-trained GM-ASEP instructors in the nation. Jon enjoys leveraging available technology to help keep SCC's ASEP program on the cutting edge. In 2007 SCC was in the beginning stages of using a learning management system. Jon was one of the first at SCC to use this technology and used it for implementing the ASEP Coop course. This allowed the coop course to work interactively with the students and their sponsoring dealerships, not only for submission and validation of Weekly Work Reports, NATEF Task List and WBT progress, but dealer and student evaluations.

Jon overcame numerous challenges when SCC changed from WebCT to Angel, then to Moodle and now to Moodle 2.0 as the learning management system. He also was recognized for his work as a member of the GM-ASEP constitution committee.

▶ **Scott Gunderson** recently was appointed project manager for Thompson Electric Co., Omaha, NE. Gunderson, a 1982 Electrical graduate, has more than 32 years of design technology expertise, including experience in planning, cost estimating, construction, and coordinating electric distribution facilities. Congratulations Scott!

▶ **Al Drago**, faculty member and motorsports advisor in the Automotive Technology program at Arapahoe Community College in Littleton, CO, took first place in the "Reunion Class" (ages 26 and up) at the 2013 Pepsi High School Drags on Sept. 2, 2013, at Bandimere Speedway in Morrison, CO. Drago, a 1966 graduate of Crete High School and a 1969 graduate of SCC, has been teaching at ACC for more than 15 years. Drago out-performed 35 other drivers while competing in his 1963 Chevrolet Impala.

▶ **Karen Koch**, 1998 Architectural-Engineering Technology graduate and now program instructor at SCC, graduated with her Master's Degree in Educational Administration-Higher Education in August 2013. Congratulations Karen!

▶ Lincoln Mayor Chris Beutler presented the Mayor's Award of Excellence to a team from the Information Services division of the Finance Department: **Jim Anderson**, Technical Support Specialist II; **Chad Peters**, Systems Analyst/Programmer II, 1996 Computer Programming Technology graduate; **Scott Zimmerman**, Systems Analyst/Programmer II, 1991 Computer Programming Technology graduate; **Chris Plock**, Systems Software Integrator, 1992 Computer Programming Technology graduate; and **Nicholas Wemhoff**, Systems Software Integrator, 2000 Computer Programming Technology graduate. The monthly award recognizes city employees who consistently provide exemplary service and work that demonstrates personal commitment to the city of Lincoln.

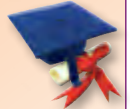
Lancaster County Treasurer Andy Stebbing nominated the team in the categories of customer relations and productivity for its work on an operating program that saved a great deal of money for Lancaster County. Stebbing praised the team of experts, saying, "In the end, they built a world-class system for a quarter of the cost, allowing me to return \$250,000 in unspent money. In addition, my annual budget is being reduced significantly due to decreased information technology operating costs. It is nice to know the individuals that built the system are one block away, as opposed to Boston or Dallas. This is an example of local government working together, and I appreciate the County Board endorsing the plan. We love the system, the customer service, the ongoing upgrades, and suggestions."

Can You Help Us Locate the Following 1966 Graduates?

We want to stay in touch with our grads!

Email information to alumni@southeast.edu or call 800-933-7223, ext. 8242.

Robert Anderson	Donald Fitz	Keith Kanter	Richard Murphy	
Melvin Becker	Wayne Fowler	Richard Keene	Rodney Ohlrich	
Ronald Bittermann	Harry George	Richard Kohout	Gary Olson	
James Blue	William George	Henry Kraemer	Lawrence Olson	Norman Sobota
Jim Broer	Leland Gerdes	Dennis Kramer	Maurice Olson	Frederick Sorge
William Butters	Lanny Grant	Dale Kremer	Laverne Orton	Wilmer Spreeman
Robert Carter	Randall Hablitzel	Russell Kuester	Dennis Palmer	John Sullivan
Norman Clark	Tommy Harms	Jerry Lembke	Larry Peterson	Kenneth Trousch
Roger Clark	Larry Herrington	William Lewis	Chris Ray	Roger Vance
Ronald Cochran	Jerry Hoeft	David Linder	Gary Robinson	Stanley Veal
Kenneth Cole	Charles Howard	Gerald Martin	Allan Rourk	James Wagner
Joseph Cole Jr.	Gary Hudnall	Robert McChesney	Steven Ruby	Robert Wardell
Donald Conway	Cullen Huet	Gary Meyers	Elijah Rundell	William Wehrbein
David Dieckman	Ronald Isom	Gary Mills	Larry Salzman	Howard Wellensick
Jerry Downie	Richard Jacob	Keith Mitchell	Joeseoph Schinzel	Richard Wilkinson
Lawrence Durfee	Wilbur Jeffery	Gary Mitzner	Terry Schluterbush	Kenneth Wolf
William Ehlers	Roger Johnson	Clarence Morgan	Ronald Schweitzer	Robert Wusk
David Erion	Stephen Johnson	Roger Morrison	Larry Snyder	



Can You Help Us Locate the Following 1994 Graduates?

Travis Adams	Brent Daehling	Scott Hill	Stanley Preslicka	Joel Swartsley
Debbie Arntt	Jeremy Davis	Todd Kaiser	Darin Rasplicka	Norman Swett
Andrew Bantam	Matthew Desoe	Adam Langley	Joshua Schmitz	Grant Titus
David Beecham	Wayne Drake	Aaron LeMere	Timothy Shaner	Thomas Turner
Christopher Betz	Shawn Erickson	Todd McConkey	Gregory Shaw	Joseph Vyhalek
Floyd Christiacy	Russ Franzen	Donald McCulley	Robert Shipp	Aaron White
Christopher Clark	Terry Gilbert	Dan McDonald	Nathan Sickmann	Edward Woodward
Will Cobb	Jeffrey Grimes	Shannon McGovern	Robert Skaggs	Jerry York
Richard Cool	William Grothe	Richard Meyer	Christopher Smith	Lee Zeman
Leah Cornett	Benjamin Harsh	Tony Miller	Douglas Smith	
Todd Cox	Michael Hennington	Stephen Minderman	Dennis Sonntag	

In Memory of...

Milford

Marvin Adcock (Electronics, 1959)
 Terry O. Chandler (Electronics, 1970)
 Lugene Cromer Jr. (Electronics, 1960)
 Francis "Frank" Crawford (Automotive, 1980)
 Robert W. Guenette (Diesel Truck, 1990)
 Richard D. King (Automotive, 1946)
 Ivan D. Stiegemeier (Diesel, 1960)

Alumni NEWS

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Dear SCC Graduate:

As I write this article, I am reminded once again that the SCC community extends far beyond the geographic boundaries of our campus sites and this region. No matter where you live, you are a member of the SCC family united by memories, traditions and a strong belief in the mission of SCC.

Since its beginning, the Southeast Community College Educational Foundation has supported the vitality and growth of the College to benefit students, staff and the communities the institution serves through the development and wise use of financial resources. Students at SCC succeed in part because of the generosity of alumni and friends like you. With approximately 80 percent of our students accepting some type of financial assistance, we need your help and support of our scholarship programs. Please know that your investment is life-changing for our students:

“Thank you very much for the scholarship I received. It has helped give me the opportunity to go to school, when I otherwise would be struggling to pay for school on my own. This scholarship means a lot and will be a great help to me. With your help, it is possible for me to earn an education past high school, and I am very grateful for that.” ~ Kelsey Lutz

“One of my dreams is to graduate from college and eventually get my master's degree. This scholarship is a great help to me in making this dream a reality. I hope that someday the career I pursue will allow me to continue this cycle of generosity by contributing to the educational future of young people. I greatly appreciate your gift, and I am now even more motivated in my studies. Thank you very much.” ~ Rodney Meester

Please join us in this important undertaking by making a contribution to one of the SCC Educational Foundation scholarships.

1. Go to www.southeast.edu/GiveNow.
2. Complete the online form.
3. Click the Donate button.

You also have the option of completing the donor card and mailing it.

1. Go to www.southeast.edu/EducationalFoundation.
2. Click on the Donation Card.
3. Print the card.
4. Complete the card.
5. Mail it with your check to: SCC Educational Foundation, 301 S. 68th St. Place, Lincoln, NE 68510.

Thank you for creating opportunities and fulfilling dreams. As always, on behalf of the students at SCC, thank you for your generosity.

Richard A. Becker, Executive Director
SCC Educational Foundation



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