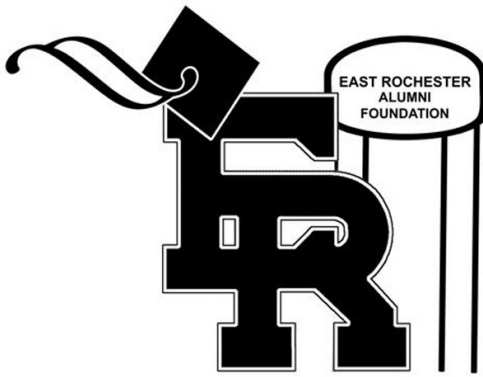


### *GRANTS UPDATE*



The Alumni Foundation has been able to fund a wide variety of grants for the 2011-12 school year so far. We are pleased to be able to help so many diverse and worthy programs. Here is a brief summary:

**AfterSchool Advantage** – We have again given funds (for snacks and paper products) to help support this very popular and highly effective 7-12 after-school academic-enrichment program.

**Rochester Arts & Lectures Series** – This project was initiated by the Alumni Foundation in 2011. Originally, we provided funds so two high-school students and one teacher were able to attend the six-lecture

series. We subsequently provided a second grant which allows the district to provide participants with books written by the author(s) they will be hearing during the series.

**Tanglewood Marionettes** – Funds were given to the elementary school's cultural arts program for two performances of the Chinese folktale 'The Dragon King,' which was presented by a national touring marionette company.

**Science Olympiad teams** – Again this year, funds were granted to help with the costs of supplies and materials to be used in competition by the award-winning high-school team. This is the third year we've given financial support to them. Last year, the ERHS students placed very highly in both local and state competitions. Funds were also given to help the junior-high team buy supplies and equipment needed to participate in their competition.

**PreK Parent Project** – Funding was granted again this year in support of this highly regarded program for parents and teachers.

**ER Positive Peers** – Funds were provided to support this new junior-high program, which helps reinforce the value and importance of positive attitudes as they relate to personal and work situations. Money was given to underwrite recognition events for students meeting the program's goals.

**Homecoming 2011** – A grant was provided to help underwrite costs associated with the '11 Spirit Week celebration.

**Welcome events for new students/families** – Funds awarded in the spring of 2011 were used to buy 'welcome' bags for two fall get-togethers (an elementary school dinner and a secondary school breakfast). This project is designed to warmly welcome families who are new to the ERSD.

**Career Nights** – As the sponsor of this event, our foundation has collaborated with the school leadership team for the past three years to hold career nights for students in grades 7-12. We have arranged for dozens of ER alumni to make presentations and answer questions at these events, and have donated funds to underwrite raffle prizes (including gift cards to Barnes & Noble) for student participants.

**Door Monitor T-shirts** – For the second year, funds have been given to buy t-shirts for almost 30 sixth-grade student leaders who help those in K-2 get organized and ready to face another challenging day at school.

**HYPE tutoring program** – For the past 14 years, the HYPE program has teamed trained high-school tutors with students in grades 4-6 who need additional help with some aspect of their school work. This year, funds were allocated by the Alumni Foundation to help underwrite the expansion of this highly effective tutoring program to include 10 junior-high students.

**T-shirts for Special Olympics** – Funds were given for t-shirts to be worn by five ER athletes who will be participating in this year's aquatic Special Olympics. Additional shirts are being funded so parents and program volunteers can show their support for the athletes who will be representing the district.

**Color scrolling lights** – Funds were granted to buy five color scrolling lights for the auditorium. This, coupled with lighting-related grants made by the Alumni Foundation in '10 and '11, and this year's purchase of five additional scrollers by the district, completes a substantial upgrade of our auditorium media equipment.

**'The College Experience: My First Year'** – Funds were provided in spring '11 to help underwrite this lunch get-together for the juniors and seniors, and about 15 recent ER alumni who are now attending college. This event gave our students an opportunity to discuss a variety of college-related issues with people they know, and who have had to make the same adjustments and decisions the juniors and seniors will face in the near future.

## FROM THE ER ALUMNI FOUNDATION

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### ***THIRD 'CAREER NIGHT' SET FOR MARCH 15***

Consistent with the ER School District's Mission ('to prepare all students to be post-secondary ready') and a goal of the ER Alumni Foundation ('to help build a stronger school system, a stronger community, and a stronger future for all East Rochester students'), the ERAF will be sponsoring its third Career Fair in cooperation with the Junior/Senior High School the evening of Thursday, March 15. The purpose of the Career Fairs is to provide our 7-12 students with information they can use as they begin facing important career and advanced-education decisions.

The second event, held last March, featured 23 alumni and friends representing these eight categories: arts and communication (Jim Aroune, Wendy Paige Doll, Casey Filiaci, and Gene Filiaci), business (Jim Baglieri and Tim Henry), food services (John Fee and Don Verni), medical and health services (Neil Herendeen, Eric Morono, and Mary Kay Ross Parrone), public and social services (Vicki Argento, Howard Maffucci, and John Tando), science and engineering (Tom Quinzi and Carmine Torcia), skilled trades (Julie Carlevatti Judge, Dan Parshall, and Peter Quinzi), and teaching (Kristina Barbero Cardamone, Katie Conners DeVito, Angela Beltran Fuller, and Anita Mance). Students had the opportunity to hear interesting and informative comments from all our alumni speakers, and were eligible to win several door prizes. The evening concluded with refreshments provided by the Culinary Arts program, under the direction of John Fee.

For our third event, set for 6:30 to 8:30 pm, we will be adding an 'Athletics' category to the eight listed above. We encourage all Junior/Senior High students (and their parents!) to take advantage of this opportunity to interact with our talented alumni.

If you are interested in helping with this important project or would like more information, please contact Tom Quinzi at [tvquinzi@frontiernet.net](mailto:tvquinzi@frontiernet.net).

### ***Thank You Sponsors and Supporters!***

The ERAF receives much of its financial support, and many of our event gifts and prizes, from more than 150 very generous local businesses and service providers. In the previous newsletter we began publishing a list of those businesses who have demonstrated their support of the foundation and their commitment to ER. Please take a minute to review the below list, which is a continuation. Your support of those who support us is an excellent way to let these businesses know their generosity is deeply appreciated. Please be aware that we originally started at both alphabetical ends of the sponsor list, and all will be highlighted over the next nine months.

*CentrePoint Country Club, Clifton Springs Country Club, Colonial Business Systems, Country Club Liquor Mart, Crosman Corp., Custom Kitchens by Martin, Debbie Supply, Despatch Pizza Kitchen, Dick's Sporting Goods, Diane Prince Furniture and Gifts, Dick Ide Collision, Dick Ide Honda, Donald C. Allen Agency, ER Automotive, ER Corner Sports Bar, EFP Rotenberg CPAs, Edge Architecture, EVC Enterprises, Family First Federal Credit Union, Gabriel First Corp., Giovanni's Ristorante, Green Planet Landscaping, Mark Hettler CPA, Home Depot, Javen Construction, North Eastern Pool and Spa, Northside Inn, Frank Odorisi Esq., Olive Garden, Parente Beard LLC, Parrone Engineering, Patio Enclosures, Timothy Pellittiere Esq., Perlo's Restaurant, PGA Tour Entertainment, P.G.'s Corner Store, Piano Works Physical Therapy, Pittsford Family Dental, Plan Architectural Studio, Peter J. Pullano Esq., Rochester Lumber, Doug Romach Tours, The Sentry Group, Spall Realty Corp., Steve's Tavern, Jerome B. Stander CPA, State Farm Insurance/Jim Baglieri, Tapas 177 Lounge*

### **ERAF BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Board members:** Denise Ash, John Baynes, Jim Burlingame, Jerry Cilento, Mary Hopkins Cooney, Katie Conners DeVito, Mary Burton Estey, Linda Forbes, Dr. Ray Giamartino, Jr. (ex-officio), Marilyn Tuttle Lopez, Anita Mance, David Morabito, Sam Morabito, Peter Obourn, Patty Pullano, Tom Quinzi, Carl Tobin, and Patrick Tobin

**Former board members:** Terry Brown-Steiner, Tim Henry, Dr. Howard Maffucci, Peter Nicolucci, Fred Ricci, Barb Pierce Stoner, Sam Urzetta, and Nick Verzella

*more ERAF news....*

## FROM THE ER ALUMNI FOUNDATION

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Since March 2011, the ERAF has had its own **display case in the auditorium foyer**. Located on the left just before the gymnasium, it has provided a place for us to celebrate our alumni and share news of upcoming events.

Last spring the display focused on the Kevin Connors concert, our Distinguished Alumni Award recipients Brig. Gen. Richard McPhee, Rear Adm. Don Quinn, and Nick Verzella, the upcoming reunion of the class of '61, and a sample of our ERAF 'welcome' bag for new students. Later we celebrated our Sam Urzetta Golf Classic with a tribute to Sam, our dear friend and colleague. For the last few months we have focused on some of the reunions held in 2011. Photographs (both recent and not-so-recent) and yearbooks of the classes of 1951, '56, '61, '76, and '86 helped us share special memories. Future displays will showcase photos of alumni who are faculty and staff members at ERSD, and veterans.

We thank the school for granting us this space to allow us to share special items, and special times, with you.

### *2012 Sam Urzetta Alumni Classic set for Friday, Aug. 3*

This summer the Alumni Foundation will be hosting its sixth annual golf tournament. The Sam Urzetta Alumni Classic is planned for Friday, Aug. 3 at Lima Country Club. Originally known as the East Rochester Open, our tournament was renamed the Sam Urzetta Alumni Classic in 2008. Our intent was to honor our dear friend and a true golfing legend. In addition to his many sporting, social, and charitable contributions, Sam was a founding member of the ERAF Board of Directors and a key member of the ER Open committee.

The 'Classic' is our major annual fundraiser. Over the past five years, the tournament has raised over \$58,000. Proceeds have been used to fund education-related grants and projects the foundation has undertaken on behalf of ER students. The financial success of this event is attributable to alumni and business sponsors who have generously donated cash and other gifts totaling over \$74,000, and to the 846 golfers who have joined us at previous tournaments (including the record 212 who played last summer).

While our primary goal is to raise money in support of ERAF grants and projects, we also place heavy emphasis on the renewal of old acquaintances and having fun. To this end, we use both courses at Lima to prevent playing delays, keep our entry fees as low as possible to promote participation, and use the 'scramble' format to make the event fun for all levels of golfers.

The entry fee of \$85 per person includes greens fee and cart, a continental breakfast, welcome gifts, a hot dog and soft drink at the turn, a luncheon buffet, loads of door prizes, and a charitable donation to the foundation.

Registration forms will soon be available on the ERAF Website – [www.erschools.org/alumni.cfm](http://www.erschools.org/alumni.cfm). Registering early may be an especially good idea this year, as we expect to reach our player limit in early July.

Individuals or businesses interested in becoming a tournament sponsor should contact Carl Tobin at 526-6120 or [ctobin@frontiernet.net](mailto:ctobin@frontiernet.net).



*Third-grader Lukas Z. concentrates on a weight and pulley experiment as part of a long-distance video lesson on 'Simple Machines.' More photos from the activity, held Wednesday, Nov. 16 and Thursday, Nov. 17, are at [www.tinyurl.com/7h2bjpr](http://www.tinyurl.com/7h2bjpr).*