



Alumni Association of Rensselaer NY School District

Spring Newsletter 2024

President's Message

Happy New Year! I hope that you have had a great holiday season and are anticipating a great Spring! I know I am looking forward to seeing more Spring weather. Even though the Alumni Association doesn't meet in January and February we have been hard at work. I just wanted to give you an update on some of the projects we have been working on.

After our December meeting officers had been working on getting Hall of Fame applications out and judged. Presently the applications are with the judges and we should have an announcement shortly with the results. We are also preparing for the April 13th dinner at the Franklin Terrace. It should be an exciting evening. We hope you will be able to join us. We are also making preparations for our March 23rd Craft Fair from 10am-3pm-where we will have over 50 crafters, we hope you will be able to stop by and check out the sale.

Over the winter months we have sponsored the school's Science Olympiad team as well as the peer mediation training program. We are truly trying to focus on helping programs at the school that will help educate and train students for success when they graduate. We have also provided some wreaths for the Wreaths Across America Program in honor of Rensselaer citizens who have given their lives for their country.

In January we organized our archives and have redone our showcases in the main entrance of the school. I invite you to come visit the "history hall" where you can not only see artifacts but also see the original framed blueprints of Van Rensselaer High School on Washington Avenue that was generously donated by the family of former teacher Harry Barner.

Denise Roberts Wright '83

CRAFT FAIR MARCH 23 10AM-3PM

Along with the class of 2025, we will be sponsoring a Craft Fair on Saturday, March 23, 2024 at the high school from 10 am-3 pm. Last year we hosted close to 60 crafters and vendors and even had a visit from the Easter Bunny. It was a great fundraiser for us last year raising over \$1400 for the Alumni Association. We hope you will be able to help us out that day. Any time you can give us would be greatly appreciated. Be on the lookout for information on our website and Facebook page or email us at alumniassociation@rcsd.k12.ny.us. Come enjoy the day spending time with fellow alumni but also do some wonderful shopping!

RENSELAEER HIGH SCHOOL CRAFT & VENDOR FAIR 2024

Join us in welcoming Spring at this year's Craft and Vendor Fair! Browse a wide array of goods from several local crafters and vendors. All proceeds directly benefit the Class of 2025 and the Alumni Association of Rensselaer City School District.

You won't want to miss this - candles, jewelry, food items, and more!

WHEN

Saturday, March 23rd
10AM to 3PM

FREE
ADMISSION!

WHERE

Rensselaer High School
25 Van Rensselaer Drive
Rensselaer, NY 12144

INCLUDING
A VISIT
FROM THE
EASTER
BUNNY!





Can You Help Us?

We found this banner during our archiving project but we are looking for a picture of this banner being used. If you have one please let us know!

Sweatshirt Sale:

Our winter sweatshirt sale went well. We sold crew neck, zip up, and hoodie sweatshirts in ash gray and heather navy. Alumni from around the United States purchased them. Some were sent to New Hampshire and Florida! Alumni are proud to display their Ram pride. Our hope is maybe having a "hat" sale sometime later this year. Stay tuned



Ann Hendrick

2h · 👤

The 50th class reunion of Rensselaer Jr. Sr. High School class of 1974....including students of SJA sophomore class of 1972 will be held on September 21, at the Albany Yacht Club. Mark your calendars. If you have not submitted your email please contact Patrick Haggerty, Nancy Mooney Ellis, Mary Lynch Buono, Maureen Hayes Keefe, Donna Kvenik or me. We really want to reach out to all classmates and have a good turnout because....you know it's going to be a great.

Reunion News



Alumni Helping to Accomplish a Goal!

We posted this project on our Facebook page and many alumni stepped up to the plate across the country and sent cards to the second-grade classes.

At the printing of this newsletter, all the states have sent a card. Thank you so much to the Alumni who helped with this valuable geography project! It is so heart warming to see Alumni help young students learn.

Our 2nd grade classes are participating in "Hearts Around the USA". Our goal is to get a valentine or postcard from each of the 50 states. We will have a map in our hallway and place a heart on each state that we get a valentine from. In order for this to be a success, we need your help! Please send valentines early so that they arrive before 2/14!

Valentines can be mailed to:
Van Rensselaer Elementary School
c/o The Second Grade Classes
25 Van Rensselaer Drive
Rensselaer, New York 12144

Thank you!
Mrs. Clum, Mrs. Lindemann, Mrs. Pekala, Ms. Rowe, Mrs. Spencer, Mrs. Wyman, and Mrs. Brown

Membership drive: Our membership drive has been going well this year! Thank you so much for supporting our efforts to support the students of Rensselaer. On our membership form this year we asked you to help us by letting us know what type of social media you use. We are trying to figure out a variety of ways to keep alumni informed about our events and activities. So far Instagram and Facebook seem to be the most popular methods (which we both use). If you haven't mailed your form in, please be sure to because we need to update your information every year to keep our records accurate. Your tax-deductible donations truly help us support many programs for the students.

Historian's Note:

If you have any pictures or articles you would like to donate, please be sure to place names and years on the item. It helps us display the item appropriately. Thank you!

Pat Schroeder

Officers:

President-Denise Roberts Wright
Vice President-Tracey Stock
Treasurer-Liz Rooney Ryan
Secretary-Tracy Boniface Foust
Ex-officio-Doris Roberts
Webmaster-Tom Mulyca

Hall of Fame: Applications are now in the hands of the judges. Extremely exciting, it is wonderful to see all of the amazing things Rensselaer alumni have done!

Our **Hall of Fame Dinner** is scheduled for **Saturday, April 13th** at the Franklin Terrace Ballroom (near Hudson Valley Community College) 126 Campbell Avenue, Troy, NY 12180. We hope you will be able to join us to celebrate the accomplishments of Rensselaer Alumni.

Dinner will be a buffet for \$60 and will include hors d'oeuvres, a beef carving station, 2 entrees, pasta, salad, and a dessert bar. Dinner reservation forms will be made public once the inductees are announced at the end of February.



Save the date:
April 13th!



Website Class Rosters: Please check out the class rosters listed on our website (RensselaerNYalumni.org). If you have any revisions, please email us at alumniassociation@rcsd.k12.ny.us . The more accurate we keep our records it will assist alumni who are planning activities and reunions.

Webmaster in Training Needed

We are looking for someone to help us keep our website up-to-date. You do not have to live in the Capital District to assist with this. If you have any questions about what this entails please contact Tom Mulyca at MulyCat@gmail.com or alumniassociation@rcsd.k12.ny.us

Calendar for next meetings:

- March 5 at 6:30 pm
- April 2 at 6:30 pm
- May 7 at 6:30 pm

Our meetings are held in the Large Group Instruction Room at the High School near the auditorium. We would love to have you join us, the more the merrier! All new ideas are gladly welcomed. If you can't join us in person, feel free to check out our YouTube channel. We live stream our meetings.



President Denise Wright enjoyed being able to present a gift card to social worker Heather Stazack for the Peer Mediation training and present a check to Science Olympiad advisor Pam Goodwin to provide t-shirts for the February 10th competition.



January archiving project-Thank you Nettie Fitzgerald, Tracey Stock, and Tessa Kent for helping Denise Wright



How to contact us

Email: alumniassociation@rcsd.k12.ny.us

alumnitreasurer@rcsd.k12.ny.us

Website:

<http://www.RensselaerNYAlumni.org>

Instagram: rcsdalumni

Facebook: [\(4\) Rensselaer Grade Schools and HS Alumni | Facebook](#)

Rensselaer School District website:
[rcsd.k12.ny.us/high school/alumni news](http://rcsd.k12.ny.us/high_school/alumni_news)