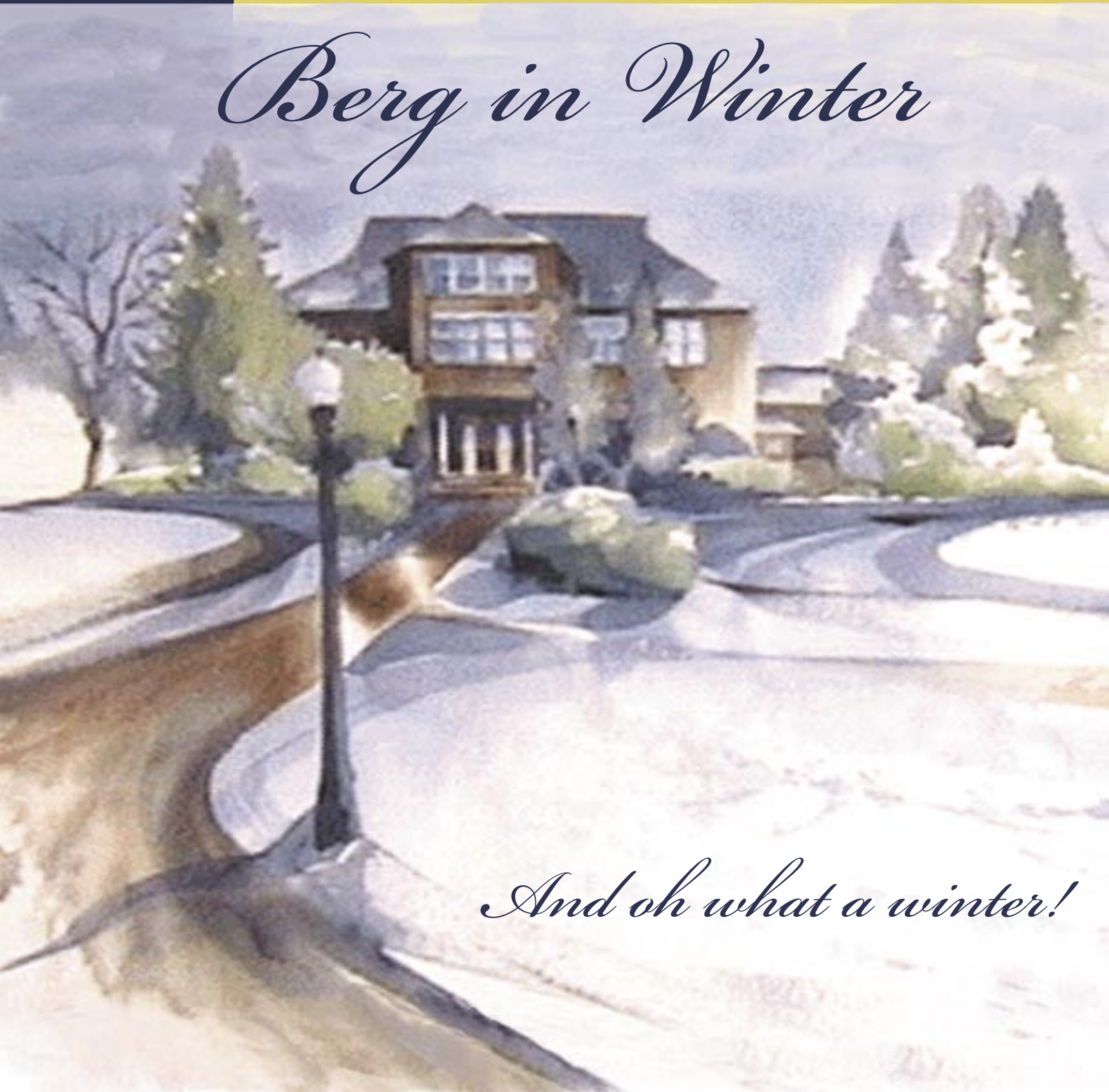


InTouch

Trinidad State Junior College
Educational Foundation Publication

Berg in Winter



And oh what a winter!

President's Message

Fresh Starts and New Beginnings 2007

Has anyone noticed---It is cold outside!!! The beautiful snow at the beginning of 2007 reminded us here in Trinidad of the clean, fresh start that each New Year brings.

Serving Trinidad State Junior College is truly an honor and a privilege. I continue to enjoy each day as we strategically plan for the future. Our goals each year will be published as we stay "In Touch" with alumni and friends. For 2007 we will:

"S" See things differently. Different perspectives, different appreciations, different styles of learning and teaching—all these challenge us and expand our horizons. We can learn the most from those who are most different from us. From the classroom to the staffroom, we are learning to tap into the unique resources our students and colleagues have to offer through shared governance.

"T" Take time to build on a solid foundation through strategic planning. We have initiated a new strategic planning process with a clear planning cycle focused on growth, collaboration, and continuous improvement. The changes reflect the buy-in of the faculty and staff to further the excellence TSJC. Our strategic plan is a working document that will continue to engage the college in a constant pattern of measurement, discovery, discussion, and improvement.

"A" Accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools ensures the quality and integrity of TSJC's programs and services. Accreditation allows students to transfer credits and enables students to obtain financial aid. TSJC was first accredited in 1962 and received its last ten-year accreditation in 1998. The College is actively engaged in the self-study process, and looks forward to its comprehensive site visit from the Higher Learning Commission in March 2008.

"R" Reach out to students by expanding concurrent enrollment opportunities. Concurrent enrollment allows high school juniors and seniors to enroll in TSJC courses and receive college credit. Concurrent enrollment opportunities are offered through distance learning, on-site, and on-campus attendance programs.

"T" Take a stand on quality. The quality of education at TSJC is in direct proportion to our commitment to excellence. As we continue to update facilities, improve curriculum, enhance both the arts and sciences and the career and technical programs, and continue to seek creative funding; we are creating a culture in which the pursuit of quality becomes standard operating procedure.



We understand there are risks and costs to a program of action. But they are far less than the long term risks and costs of comfortable inaction.

Cover Art



Watercolorist, **Doug Holdread** has been painting since his days as a student at TSJC in the 1970s, when he studied art under Bill Johnson. He is currently the head of the Art Department teaching drawing and painting as well

as Art History and Art Appreciation. He and his wife, Lori who is the coordinator of the TSJC Learning Center, enjoy spending time at their studio on the banks of the Purgatoire River.

You can purchase your print of Doug's original watercolor, *Berg in Winter*, for \$90 (16x20 matted/framed), or \$45 (10x14 unframed) price includes shipping & handling. Send payment to the TSJC Educational Foundation Office, 600 Prospect, Trinidad, CO 81082

In Touch

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On Campus

TSJC Proudly Welcomes

Terrie L. Baros

Terrie is the Director of Customized Business and Industry Training. She has an A.A.S. in Preschool Education from Canton Community College and a B.A. in Elementary Education from Keuka University. She also holds certificates in Instructional Design and Delivery and Project Management. She has conducted training in London and Paris. Her skills include managing teams of course developers, instructors and process analysts.



Jim Brunelli

Jim is the Automotive Technology Instructor and received his A.A. from Trinidad State Junior College. He worked for Mangino Automotive Center in Trinidad for over twenty years and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the students in the automotive program.



Jocelyn Cessar

Jocelyn graduated with honors from the TSJC Occupational Safety and Health Technology program. She has a Bachelor of Science in Occupational Safety and Health and a Master of Science in Education. Jocelyn loves the challenge of providing education to her students, most of whom are, as she was, non-traditional students with full-time jobs, families, and other obligations.



Dana Hajj

Dana, Nursing Instructor, has a B.S.N. from American University of Beirut (AUB), a M.S. in Population Studies from AUB, a M.S.N. from University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver (UCHSC), and is currently enrolled in the UCHSC PhD. Program. She has a background in nursing including ICU, Head Nurse, and teaching in both the clinical area and classroom.



Kerry Gabrielson

Kerry is the new Grant Writer for TSJC. She received her undergraduate degree from University of Dayton in Elementary Education and her Master's Degree from DePaul University in leadership and policy studies. Previously, Kerry was the Executive Director for the South Central Council of Governments. Just 30 days into her new job Kerry submitted the EPIC grant request to the Federal government and it was a success!



Mark Gallegos

Mark is the Director of the Criminal Justice and the Southern Colorado Law Enforcement Training Academy. A native of Trinidad, he attended Adams State College where he received a B.A. degree in Psychology and a Minor in Sports Medicine and Criminal Justice. He is also a graduate of TSJC's Law Enforcement Training Academy. He is currently working on a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Phoenix.



Jennie Garduno

Jennie has worked at the College part-time for many years and has over 16 years of experience in teaching nursing classes. She is now full-time faculty in the Nursing Department. She received her Master of Nursing Degree from the University of Phoenix in 1995.



Speedy Gonzalez

TSJC's newest Gunsmithing Instructor is a machinist, inventor, and benchrest gunsmith who is the only person to win a grand aggregate in both hunter and group at the NBRSA Nationals. He designs and builds most of the equipment he uses in competition, but owns almost every component on the market in order to have a working knowledge of these products. He is anxious to share his knowledge with TSJC's gunsmithing students.



Chuck Grace

Chuck is the NRA Coordinator. He received his AA Degree in Gunsmithing from TSJC in 1973 and has owned and operated a professional custom gun making and gun repair shop since that time. Chuck is the Chairman of the Education Committee of the American Custom Gunmaker's Guild. He has taught NRA affiliated classes in Trinidad and in Susanville, California.



Continued on page 6



Heusted TSJC Faculty of the Year - Alamosa

Marcia Heusted, Director of Massage Therapy at Trinidad State Junior College in Alamosa graduated from Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education and immediately moved abroad to teach. She taught in Sydney, Australia, Milan, Italy and Belfast, Northern Ireland before returning to the States to begin her teaching career in Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

After teaching for a decade and raising two daughters, she left teaching to start a second career in naturopathy. She trained in alternative healing with a special emphasis in homeopathy from 1984-1986. In 1987 she opened one of our country's first integrative medical centers on scenic Cape Cod Bay. The Cape Cod Center for Holistic Medicine offered a staff of fourteen practitioners including MDs, acupuncturists, chiropractors, psychotherapists, massage therapists, and herbalists to name a few. Marcia is passionate about using the two models of healing, both allopathic and alternative therapy, which she believes is the most effective way to treat the majority of patients.

Since moving to Colorado, Marcia uses her naturopathic skills in a private practice at her home in Crestone, Colorado, as well as serving as Director of Massage Therapy at the TSJC Valley Campus in Alamosa. The Massage Therapy Program is in its fourth year and plans are underway to extend the program by offering an Associates Degree in Applied Science beginning with the fall semester of 2007.

Marcia is a dynamic and respected instructor whose students appreciate, not only what they learn in the program, but the personal growth they experience as well. "If a student leaves the program more empowered than when they started, I feel that I've done my job," Marcia said. The program offers a wide range of experience to enable students to adhere to one of Marcia's truths which is "Heal Thyself First." In addition, she invites many guest speakers into her classroom thus drawing on the knowledge and wisdom of many of the healers already living in the Valley. Co-creatively, Marcia, her staff and students plan a rite of passage graduation ceremony at the end of the year to honor the hard work and dedication of each of her students where Marcia personally recognizes their strengths and contributions to a program with this kind of intensity.



Pearson TSJC Faculty of the Year - Trinidad Campus

Lesley Pearson, instructor of Accounting and Economics at Trinidad State Junior College believes that communication is the most valuable skill needed in her work. "A person can be very knowledgeable about these subjects, but it is necessary to have the ability to communicate and break down information in a way that makes it come alive for the students," said Pearson.

It was surprising to Pearson to discover that most students are generally unfamiliar with even basic economic terms and concepts when they start classes. "I try to make things fun and use examples that interest them, like credit cards and alternative energy sources to show how relevant theories are applicable to their lives," she said. Pearson said that her interaction with students and seeing them develop confidence is the most rewarding aspect of her job, "particularly that one moment in time when they understand what I have been teaching... when it all comes together for them." Grateful for the "tremendous role models" she has had throughout her years in corporate accounting, and as a CPA, Pearson, in turn, tries to instill in her students a level of personal responsibility and accountability while providing students with a practical view of the career paths available to them. "Accounting is a huge field; it is growing by leaps and bounds," Pearson said. According to Pearson, there is a great demand for auditing, and an unusual career opportunity with an overwhelming growth rate in forensic accounting. Forensic accountants investigate white collar crime, the biggest employer being the FBI.

Pearson is from Lander, Wyoming, and attended Laramie County Community College and the University of Wyoming. She has a BS in Accounting and in Ag Business. She is a CPA in both Colorado and Wyoming. She was working as a CPA when her husband, Travis Pearson, was recruited by his former instructor and hired as Instructor of Engineering at Trinidad State Junior College. Moving to Trinidad with Travis, there was an opportunity for a career change to academia for Leslie, who had previously thought about teaching at the junior college level.

Currently teaching in her second academic year at TSJC, Pearson was instrumental in writing a successful USDA grant for start up funds for an Ag Business degree program and an Agricultural Production Tech program at the college. "The \$195,000.00 grant will provide \$60,000.00 in scholarships for students and two $\frac{3}{4}$ time faculty positions to get these programs started. We are aiming for Fall 2007," Pearson said.

TSJC BIOLOGY

Program of Excellence



Ron Rankin biology instructor with past student Angela DiPaolo

In 1990, Ron Rankin was the Biology Department. Back then, he was the only instructor and taught every class that was offered. The Biology Department has grown since then and now includes Dr. Janet Hanstad, full-time professor, and two part-time instructors, Brian Horton and Alicia Massarotti.

The state requirements for the Nursing Program were recently modified to include both microbiology and pathophysiology. Dr. Hanstad is teaching pathophysiology this semester and will teach microbiology this summer. Dr. Hanstad was a highly rated faculty member at Lamar Community College before moving to Trinidad.

Through collaborative efforts with a variety of local, state, and national organizations and agencies, biology at Trinidad State has become known as a highly-regarded “hands-on” research-oriented lab program that uses an investigative approach emphasizing critical thinking skills. Lab projects frequently begin in the field and move to the laboratory with results that have been showcased at regional, national, and international conferences.

Trinidad State was the first two year college in Colorado and in 1997, TSJC became the first two year college in the United States to be awarded membership in TriBeta, a national honor society for biology students. Until TSJC became a member, this honor society had only four year colleges and universities in their membership. The Phi Alpha Club was installed at Trinidad with Professor Rankin as the faculty sponsor and Pete Saint as the first president. Saint then represented Trinidad at a Regional Conference in Flagstaff, AZ with a research report on zinc pollution in Chalk Creek.

Since 1997, over 70 TSJC students have presented the results of 38 different original research studies at TriBeta conferences. They have also been active participants at professional meetings, such as the Southwest Rare and Endangered Plant Conference. Students have presented research on a wide range of topics, including big horn sheep health issues, rare asters, cyanobacteria, river ecology, anthrax, West Nile virus, horned lizards, and exercise physiology. “The diversity of research conducted reflects our course offerings in biology,” said Rankin.

In 2002 the TSJC Biology Department was honored with an Award of Excellence from the State of Colorado. Recognition for the program has continued since then, along with increased student enrollment and an increase in biology course offerings.

The Program of Excellence is higher education’s premier honor awarded to academic programs that have demonstrated a long-term commitment to excellence and have achieved outstanding performance records. These programs serve as models for other programs in the state and the nation. Designation of an academic program as a Program of Excellence is a lifetime honor.

“We’re making better student candidates for four year programs. It is highly competitive,” said Rankin. “The small classroom size, hands on work, and the freedom to expand interests in projects is a good promotional tool. Our students are successful when they move into university classrooms. They also seem to receive a lot of scholarships. We’ve had three students receive the full ride Griffin Scholarship and Daniel Marquez received the national Morris K. Udall Scholarship. Dan now works for the US Fish and Wildlife Service.” A series of timely grants have helped move the Biology Program forward. The equipment and supplies provided by these grants have benefited all of the biology students at TSJC, including those taken by non-science majors as part their associate degree requirements.

TSJC applied for a collaborative grant along with the University of Southern Colorado (now CSU – Pueblo) and received over \$80,000 worth of new lab equipment from the National Institute of General Medical Studies (NIGMS). The new equipment created new opportunities for student research.

A grant from Barrett Resources helped TSJC host a five state Regional TriBeta Biology Conference in April, 2001. Five students from Trinidad presented research at that conference. Two of the TSJC presentations were about marine biology research conducted in the Gulf of California at Puerto Peñasco, Sonora, Mexico as part of a TSJC Field Biology class.

A Louis Stokes Colorado Alliance for Minority Participation (LS CO-AMP) grant, in cooperation with Colorado State University, funded paid student research internships at TSJC. This was also a first in Colorado for a two- year college. Selected students are paid to conduct biological research under the supervision of TSJC biology faculty. The grant also helps pay for travel expenses to attend science conferences.

Just after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, Professor Rankin and three biology student interns, Melanie Bernal, Candace Gale, and Carmen Lara, traveled to Orlando, Florida to attend and present original research at a national biomedical research conference. The expenses were covered by the LS CO-AMP Grant and the National Institutes of Health - NIGMS Grant.

In 2003, TSJC bighorn sheep lungworm research was presented at a national conference in Houston, Texas. In 2004, Robbie Eales, captain of the Trojan basketball team, received a second place award at a regional TriBeta conference in Salt Lake City, Utah for research on the efficacy of fenbendazole as an anthelmintic for bighorn sheep lungworms.

In 2005 the Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) presented the Biology Department with a grant of \$38,000 to assist with research into Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep health issues.

In April, 2006, Rankin traveled to Alberta, Canada and presented bighorn sheep lungworm research at the 15th Northern Wild Sheep and Goat Symposium. In June, 2006, TSJC biology student Natasia Gyrman received a third place award for her bighorn sheep research at the National TriBeta Conference in Melbourne, Florida.

Most recently, the Bar NI Ranch Community Service Foundation recently presented the Biology Department with a grant of \$1500 to help continue the student research internship program. The research is to focus on some aspect of the biology of the Upper Purgatoire River area.

Research conducted last fall as part of the regular College Biology instructional lab showed that Nostoc commune, a cyanobacterium that is common in Las Animas County, produces a protein called cyanovirin-N in response to osmotic stress. This protein also ties up the outer knob of HIV, and may help prevent the spread of AIDS by acting as a fusion inhibitor.

On Campus

New Staff & Faculty

Steve Griffis

Steve is a faculty member in the Humanities/Social Studies area. He was born and raised in Colorado Springs and has a BA in Religion from Westmont College, and a Master in Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary. Steve has served churches and hospitals in the East and Midwest as pastor or chaplain.



Dr. Janet Hanstad

She is passionate about teaching and helping her students succeed, understand and enjoy her classes. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from University of Oregon, her Master of Science degree in Forest Ecology from Utah State University and her Doctorate of Philosophy in Plant Pathology from University of California at Davis.

Adam Lucas

Adam graduated from TSJC with an AAS in gunsmithing in 1999. He was a member of the gun club and acquired a scrimshaw certificate as well as two engraving certificates and a knife-making certificate. He started in November as the Tool Room Manager in the Gunsmithing Department.



Robert Miller

The EPIC Program's Diesel Mechanic Instructor has been employed in the construction field industry since graduating from TSJC in 1989. He is excited to teach the students in his areas of experience, including heavy equipment operator, diesel mechanic, automotive mechanic, and shop foreman, to give them the opportunities that he has enjoyed.

Dean Moltre

Dean a lifelong resident of Las Animas County, and owner and partner in Purgatoire Valley Construction, is so dedicated to the concept and need for the TSJC EPIC Program, that he is volunteering his service to the College as Instructor of the Heavy Equipment Operator program.



Vernon Paulsen

EPIC Program Welding Instructor, was born in Denver and raised in Leadville. He has an AAS degree from LCCC in aviation maintenance and a vocational training certificate from the University of Wyoming, Laramie. Vern says he has a love for welding and teaching the younger generation of skilled workers.

Joe Reorda II

Native of Trinidad, Joe is now the Theatre Instructor. He received his undergraduate degree from The Colorado College in Theatre with a Minor in Art History and attended The London Institute in London, England studying Theatre Art History. He has a Master of Fine Arts in Film/Video/Performance from California College of the Arts.



Stephen Swazo

Stephen, Women's Head Softball Coach and Assistant Financial Aid, is a graduate of Trinidad High School. He has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Nebraska at Kearney in Physical Education and a Minor in Special Education. He also has a broadcasting degree from Baile School of Broadcasting.

Dr. Gary Wilson

Dr. Wilson is the Director of Music and received his BA in Music from Concordia College, did graduate work at the University of Wisconsin, then received his Master of Fine Arts in Vocal Performance and Doctor of Musical Arts in Vocal Performance, both from the University of Minnesota.



Promotions and New Responsibilities

Christy Holden

Christy is now the Transfer/Transcript Evaluator and Advisor. She also works part-time at the GED center. She graduated with a B.S. in Education from the University of Oklahoma where she was an elementary school teacher for several years and a GED instructor for twelve years. Christy is a familiar face around campus as she is married to TSJC Basketball Coach Rich Holden



Joe Ribaldo

Prior to being named the Assistant Dean of Industrial and Technical Education for both campuses, Joe taught diesel mechanics at the Alamosa Campus for twenty years. His education includes a BS in Industrial Education and Training from CSU, an AAS from Pueblo Community College and Certificates from TSJC in Auto and Diesel Mechanics.



Shannon Shiveley

Shannon accepted the position of Title V Director in June 2006 and recently that of the Community Based Job Training Grant Director. Previously she was the Upward Bound Director. She received an AA from Trinidad State Junior College, a BA from the University of Southern Colorado, and a Master of Arts in Education from Lesley University.



Woods Receives Award

President, Ruth Ann Woods was recently acknowledged for her outstanding service to TSJC by the Trinidad-Las Animas County Chamber of Commerce. Woods has been instrumental in developing the new Energy Production and Industrial Construction (EPIC) program, the partnership with Phil Long Family of Dealerships, and the Massage Therapy Program just to name a few projects.

Woods was appointed by the State Board for the Colorado Community College System to the position of Interim Chief Administrative Officer for Trinidad State Junior College December 14, 2004. In December 2005 she was named President.

In 2005, after only one year on the job as President, she was awarded the President of the Year among the 13 Community Colleges within the statewide system. This award highlighted the positive change and commitment to students that she brought to the job.

As one of thirteen colleges in the State Community College System, Trinidad State Junior College has faced fiscal challenges over the past several years. The limited financial resources for TSJC programs over the past several years have forced the College to abandon traditional models of education. Woods has been a leader throughout the State Community College System and an example to faculty and administrators on how to create win:win opportunities for students and businesses alike. Her vision to bring industry specific and industry relevant education where it is needed in the industry has been beneficial for the entire Las Animas County region.

The most significant problem facing Trinidad and Las Animas County businesses today is a lack of qualified workforce. From customer service in our local banks and restaurants to heavy equipment operation - Trinidad and Las Animas County businesses need employees who are ready with the skills to work. Areas businesses do not have time to do extended on the job training with staff. Trinidad and area businesses are looking for employees who have strong work ethics and require minimal training to be productive. Woods recognized this need and has responded through action. The Phil Long Family of Dealerships partnership for the automotive program, EPIC and Massage Therapy programs that were unveiled this fall have been a direct response to the needs in our community. The best example of this is the Energy Production and Industrial Construction (EPIC) Program. Approximately one year ago, Mr. Glenn Moltrer of Purgatoire Valley Construction expressed a need for trained heavy equipment, diesel mechanics and welding staff. Since then, a new program, customized to the needs of the coal bed methane industry, has evolved. Business members from the coal bed methane industry are represented in the advisory council for the program and have been instrumental in getting the program off the ground. The partnership between business and industry has never been stronger at TSJC and Woods believes the win:win created by business partnerships with TSJC will ensure the future viability of the institution while creating a well trained productive workforce in Trinidad and Las Animas County.

Nursing Update

Trinidad State Junior College's Nursing Program has had an exciting year. In 2006, TSJC leveraged the \$25,000 contribution made by San Luis Valley Federal Bank as well as the \$25,000 received from numerous donors at the Trinidad Campus to secure a \$60,000 Caring for Colorado grant. The fund raising efforts proved to be tremendously successful in providing the necessary funds to acquire two (2) SimMan patient simulators, two (2) Sam patient simulators along with attachments, replacement parts and training for effective instruction on both the Alamosa campus and the Trinidad campus.

Thanks to everyone for their support!.

EPIC



ENERGY PRODUCTION AND INDUSTRIAL CONSTRUCTION

Trinidad has historically been a coal producing area for many years, supplying coal energy for hundreds of power plants and steel mills. Natural gas is the energy that has taken the lead in the area with companies like Pioneer Natural Resources, Weatherford, XTO, Halliburton, and Purgatoire Valley Construction. These industry leaders are drilling wells, digging trenches, assembling pipelines, constructing roads in addition to various other construction projects in the hills west of Trinidad. This booming industry demands skilled workers in mechanics, welding and equipment operation.

Joe Ribaldo, a native of Trinidad, and 20-year teacher of heavy equipment and diesel at the TSJC Alamosa Campus realized the need of these companies. As Ribaldo was developing the curriculum for such a program, Glenn Moltrer, President of Purgatoire Valley Construction, came to the College and met with President RuthAnn Woods. President Woods arranged a meeting with Ribaldo and Moltrer, and the rest, as they say, is history.

As noted briefly in the last issue of InTouch, the new Energy Production and Industrial Construction (EPIC) Program is designed to prepare students for the entry level employment in the coal bed methane gas production field and related construction. The program is truly living up to its name and the definition of 'epic' - Surpassing the usual or ordinary, particularly in scope or size!

A fourth generation Trinidad native, Ribaldo is proud of his family's service and dedication to this region. Being the namesake of his uncle Joe who once taught in TSJC's automotive program, Ribaldo wanted to "bring these programs to Trinidad." "My dad worked here, my mom, both of my sisters and I went to college at TSJC. This town, my education from Hoehne and TSJC, my family and the great people I grew up with are all part of my success and my desire to give back to this community. Trinidad is a great place and I am very proud to be a native. My dad always told me, 'Never lose site of where you are going and never forget how you got there.'"

Ribaldo quotes Henry Ford, "I am looking for a lot of men who have the infinite capacity to know what can't be done." Ribaldo's goal with TSJC is to develop a strong partnership with these companies, to educate students, and to "have the finest training program in the country." Wages with partnering companies will range from \$15-25 per hour. Ribaldo notes that "this is an excellent opportunity for graduating high school seniors and skilled laborers seeking higher paying positions. "Times have changed

since I graduated from college”, said Ribaud. “I remember starting as a diesel mechanic at Rusler Implement in Pueblo, Colorado for \$4.50 per hour in 1983. I was thankful to have that job. Technology has come a long way and so have the wages and demand for skilled labor.”

At the open house held in October, President Woods welcomed the community, industry partners, and state officials to EPIC. “Energy Production and Industrial Construction is a new and vital training program developed by industry, providing training for industry,” said Woods. “The program began with a vision from two ends of the same spectrum – Joe Ribaud, new Assistant Dean of Industrial Technology, had a vision to begin a program at TSJC, offering training for mechanics that could be employed by the booming methane gas production industry. Glenn Moltrier, vice-president, of Purgatoire Valley Construction, requested that TSJC institute a program to provide a skilled workforce in construction and energy production for welders, mechanics and operators.” The two innovative ideas melded with the help of President Woods, and incorporated ideas and help from other industry related companies such as Pioneer Natural Resources, XTO, Natural Oil Well, Halliburton, and Weatherford, Volvo, and Wagner Equipment Company to become EPIC. TSJC Career and Technical Education Deans, Dr. Sandra Veltri and Tom Scarlett, developed curriculum courses that will fit industry needs from Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Utah, to Wyoming.

“Since the course was being designed for the companies, we wanted the companies to come up with the name and it evolved at an advisory committee meeting from all the input,” explained Ribaud. “(EPIC) is defined as ‘a worthy subject, in grand style, memorable, heroic and lofty in conception.’ This is our vision for this program and how fitting that this perfect acronym describes the type of training we are delivering here at TSJC.”

Ribaud is supported by instructors, Dean Moltrier, co-owner of PVC, who volunteers his services to TSJC teaching the operator classes; Vern Paulsen, the welding instructor who has a vast amount of experience in gas and oil field welding and mechanics; and Robert Miller who is the diesel mechanic instructor. Miller has worked on heavy equipment for various construction, farm implement and automotive companies including owning and operating his own business.

Others instrumental in assuring the EPIC program at TSJC included Southway Construction and SLV Earth Movers, both companies from the San Luis Valley, donated materials such as engines, components, software for service parts, and other training aids and equipment.

Ready to hire, El Paso Corporation of Colorado Interstate Gas (CIG) Co. expressed an interest in future graduates, saying they currently have 35 open positions, grateful that they now have a source for a talented pool of employees. “Thank you, TSJC,” said Rochelle Winkler of CIG. “Together we’re all going to make it work.”

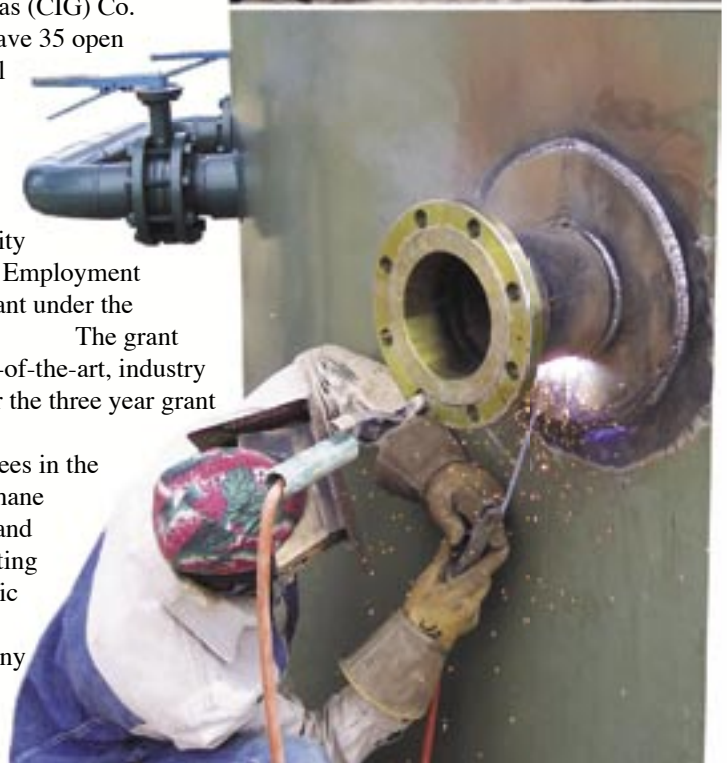
\$1.496 Million Federal Grant Received

In December, the College learned that the EPIC program would receive another boost. TSJC was one of only 72 community colleges in the country to be awarded the Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration Community-Based Job Training Grant under the President’s Community-Based Job Training Grants initiative. The grant will assist TSJC’s EPIC program through the acquisition of state-of-the-art, industry specific equipment and tuition scholarships for 150 students over the three year grant period.

TSJC’s proposal identified a need for highly trained employees in the energy production and support industries related to coal bed methane production. The main objectives of the grant are to recruit, train and provide job placement services for TSJC EPIC students. An exciting aspect of the project will be the acquisition of the industry specific equipment for students to learn and perfect their skills.

In addition to the gas companies, TSJC brought together many other partners for the project including the Colorado Workforce Center, Rocky Mountain SER and Trinidad High School.

More about the EPIC program on page 21



Spotlight



Lena Cimino/Carol Patrick

In 1934, what does a young 15 year-old do when she graduates from high school, but is too young to leave home? She attends Trinidad State Junior College. When Lena Cimino (né Maglia) started at TSJC she attended classes at Trinidad High School, and then later at Tillotson Academy “on the hill.” No ordinary teenager, Cimino began a course of study that would have her teaching professionally at age 17 after taking the state teaching exam and then earning her certificate. “It was so much fun in those days,” Cimino recalled. She wrote a column as “The Snooper” for the Trojan Tribune, and enjoyed the Winter Carnivals at Monument Lake. “It was an excellent beginning toward higher education,” she added. “They have excellent counseling that is most helpful in pursuing future goals.”

Graduating from TSJC in 1936 wasn’t the end of her higher education career. She taught school during the regular school year and attended the University of Northern Colorado in the summers until completing her Bachelors degree.

Cimino’s teaching career took her all over Las Animas County. She began right out of TSJC at Chicosa, where she taught for 6 years, followed by terms at Model, Primero, Sopris, and others. During that time, she also became the first woman to serve as an assistant superintendent of schools in Las Animas County. Finally, in 1963, Cimino devoted her work full time with the Las Animas County School District #1 where she served until retiring in 1980.

But that’s not the end of her legacy at Trinidad State Junior College. “My parents made sacrifices and encouraged education as a means toward a better life,” she said. It was only natural that she do the same when the time came for her own daughter, Carol Patrick, to complete her education. From the time she graduated from Holy Trinity High School in 1964, Carol Patrick (né Cimino) seemed to have a plan. “I chose to live at home for my first two years of college,” she said, “and then transfer to a private college to finish my bachelors.” Patrick’s education plan indeed took her from TSJC graduation to a private school, Colorado College in Colorado Springs, where she earned her degree in Fine Arts in 1968.

Like her mother before her, Patrick was drawn toward education as a career. She started teaching in the Colorado Springs Public Schools as an art instructor, and then moving to the Boulder Valley School District as an art teacher in 1968. While working at Louisville High School, she put her Fine Arts degree to work in illustrating science textbooks.

Patrick would return to Trinidad with her (then) husband and took a job with Trinidad State Junior College in 1974 helping to redesign their publications. “I had minored in English while in college and they had an opening in the Journalism Department, so I went to work.” She found that she enjoyed journalism so much, that she returned to the University of Northern Colorado to complete a Masters in Public Relations and Journalism in 1981. After taking on TSJC’s Public Relations job full-time, she was the recipient of numerous awards from the National Council of Public Relations including Best Sports Media Guide (1984 and 1987), Best Video Ad (1985), Best PR Campaign (1990, 2nd place), and Administrator of the Year in 1999. She continued to work for TSJC in the position of Dean of Extended Studies until her retirement in 2002.



Jerry Nickell

As a high school student in Branson, CO, Jerry Nickell was watched over closely by his father W.M. Nickell who not only was the school administrator, but his basketball coach as well. As Jerry’s talents grew as a basketball player under his father’s coaching, there was yet another man who was also an educator and basketball coach whom Jerry admired—Coach Richard Arguello. “It was because of my father that I chose to become an educator,” Jerry explains, and “it was Coach Arguello (who) set the example for the kind of person that I wanted to grow up to be.” Jerry described Richard Arguello as “quiet, soft-spoken and a very dignified human being.” It was not surprising then that it was through basketball that Jerry began his higher education. In 1967, he entered Trinidad State Jr. College by way of a basketball scholarship. He received his AA degree and went on to receive his BA at the University of Northern Colorado. Finishing his education at Colorado State University where he received his MED and his Superintendent Endorsement.

His first career move was taking the position of teacher and coach at Wray High School for four years, again as a teacher/coach plus administrator from 1975-1996 in the Las Animas School District, followed by a position as superintendent in the Kim School District until 2003 totaling 34 years as an educator. He takes much pride in the simple honors he received during his high school years and those he received while a student at TSJC which are attached to many happy memories. “I received a High School All American basketball player Honorable Mention, a George C. Scott Award and was also a Phi Theta Kappa member while at TSJC,” says Jerry. He was playing college basketball and seeing a four-state area from the back seat of a nine-passenger station wagon.

“The back seat was actually facing back,” he explained with a chuckle, so what he saw were always the places they were leaving. While attending TSJC in Trinidad, Jerry adds, “I spent two years living with three roommates in a renovated chicken coop. We were thinking that we had it made.” Again he laughed as he explained that college instructor Don Herman had made the coop into apartments. “The ceiling as you entered was about 8 feet high, but as you went further into the rooms the ceiling was only about 4 feet high.”

Other achievements in his lifetime that deserve mention include being a member of the Colorado High School Activities Association Board of Control and a member of the Colorado Community College Board of Directors. First and foremost of course, he is very proud of his wife of 35 years, the former Patti Sayre, and their three sons; Kelly who is a teacher and coach (baseball!) in Peyton, Colo.; Cory who is an employee at State Farm Insurance; and Casey, a salesman for American Eagle Distributions in Loveland, Colo.

Now retired, Jerry prefers to spend his leisurely time playing golf, hunting and fishing, but again it’s family that takes priority. “Mostly, I like to be “grandpa,” spending time with a handful of grandchildren,” or is it grandchildren that are a handful?

He hasn’t yet put the education aspect of his life behind him. He remains on the State Board of Community Colleges and says, “I try to stay active by serving on the Arkansas Valley Credit Union Supervisory Committee and the Las Animas Urban Authority.

“I received an excellent community college education that served me well as I furthered my education and my career,” says Jerry Nickell—a career that began with the love of basketball and the men in his life that shared that love.



Lynette Bates

Circumstances that at one point in her life painted a bleak picture of her educational future and at another that demanded she change that picture led Lynette Bates to make some determined decisions.

Two years after graduating from Rye High School, she was being discouraged from pursuing a college education because of injuries she suffered after a drunk driver slammed into the vehicle driven by father, Bob Robinson. It took six years of her life, and she had no thoughts of education for her future.

At the age of 34, Bates decided to go out on a limb and enroll at Trinidad State Junior College as an Accounting major. "I can still remember the first time I saw her in my class. She was shy and kept to herself. It wasn't until later that I learned that she doubted her ability to complete the coursework", recounted then accounting instructor, Sandy Veltri.

Bates has since received her AA degree from Trinidad State Jr. College, graduating Gold Cord and as a member of Phi Theta Kappa.

"It was a major accomplishment for me," she said proudly, adding that it was also "testament that my surgeon was incorrect about my physical limitations and dreams of a higher education."

Bates and her family moved to Trinidad in 1996 and it wasn't long after that, family circumstances necessitated the need for her to get her education. As a student, when her husband began experiencing health problems of his own, she received the encouragement she needed from the college faculty to continue with her studies and not drop out.

"I wasn't a number," said Bates. "I became part of the TSJC family, where I had the biggest 'cheerleading squad' rooting for me personally, each step of the way."

Bates advanced from not even knowing how to turn on a computer to having an essay published in the Purgatoire Literary Magazine.

"My first English paper only contained three verbs: was is and are. My instructor Judy Lee asked me to get familiar with the Writing Center," Bates explained. "It was intimidating to ask for help from the tutors since I was raised to be VERY independent." She eventually overcame that hurdle and strengthened under the supervision of her instructors. Bates herself would later become a tutor and also a grant writer with the help of Mimi Zappanti. For the past two years, Bates has held the position of Career and Technical Education advisor at TSJC, having advanced her career from a position with Career and Business Partnerships in 2002 through 2005 and as Special Populations assistant from 2003 to the present.

"Your educational goals are within reach at TSJC," said Bates. "People genuinely care about you and your education," she added, naming several instructors and faculty members that stand out in her memories as a student such as Kate Carlisle, Paul Montera, Sis Spencer, Judy Lee, Peggy Weurding, Anthony Chavez and Leslee Flores. Sandy Veltri, now Dean of Student Services/Career and Technical Education, was the one person she felt made the biggest difference in her life.

Aside from the successful career at Trinidad State Junior College that she forged through determination and strength, Bates cherishes the time she is able to spend with her husband of 19 years and their 14-year old son. She also enjoys quilting, reading and "enjoying God's creations."

"Because of my instructors' constructive criticisms, I have overcome many weak areas in my academics," said Bates.

And because of her own self-confidence and resolve, she overcame the obstacles in her path and the odds projected for her future. Bates has now become one of the very strengths at Trinidad State that she credited for her own success.

Tom Benich

A native of Trinidad, Benich attended Trinidad High School and began his winning sports career when he was named an All Conference forward in basketball and was chosen to play in the All State football game. He was then chosen by the United States military to serve his country. After completing his service in the Navy, he attended TSJC and played football, basketball and ran track.



A *Chronicle-News* article in 1949 described a young Benich as a "modest and quiet" young man "making him a favorite of students and athletes, and his willingness for hard work make him a top choice of the coaches. After graduation, Tom plans on a coaching career," the article ended.

He then took the Associates Degree he earned at TSJC and went on to Denver University to receive his masters. While a student at DU, Benich captained the track team in what is now known as the WAC conference. He set a 440-yard dash record that, as of 1976, remained to be broken. He led the DU Pioneers to the Skyline Conference championship that year.

Benich returned to the Trinidad area where the "plans" he set for himself after graduating from TSJC became reality. He was hired as the director of the Trinidad Recreation Department from 1950-1955. He was the head track coach and assistant football and basketball coach at Trinidad High School and he was responsible for beginning the football and basketball programs at Hoehne High School. From 1955-56 he was the athletic director, and the head football, basketball and track coach at Primero High School.

He returned to DU and from 1956 until 1963 was a physical education professor, freshman football and head track coach and ski program coordinator.

His 23-year tenure as the men's track and field coach with the University of Northern Colorado, formerly Colorado State College, began in 1963. He retired from a successful career in 1986. During this time, Benich's athletes qualified for the NCAA Championships for 23 years straight.

His greatest moments of pride were in watching his athletes achieve success. "I've been fortunate in a lot of respects that I've been able to coach kids like Bill Thomas (an All-American high jumper and two-time national high jump champion) and Mike Tomasini (an All-American in football and track)," Benich said. Benich also coached William White, the 1982 North Central Conference Most Valuable Performer. White earned U.S. Athlete of the Year honors from the U.S. Olympic Committee for being a member of the USA's four-man bobsled team that competed in the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary.

Since his departure from UNC, the college honors him each spring with the Tom Benich Track Classic.

"I had 16 All-Americans, I am in the UNC Hall of Fame and was NCC Coach of the Year and received the NCAA Track Coaches Distinguished Service Award," says Benich. He is also in the Colorado Basketball Officials Hall of Fame, an honor he received for the 30-years he dedicated as an official in the world of sports.

All of Benich's professional honors, accomplishments and awards bring immense pride to those he loves most-his wife Charlotte of 55 years; his three wonderful children, Rob; Cheryl and Sue; six grandchildren and most recently, one great-grandchild.

Note: Tom Benich passed away on January 24, 2007, just days before this article was complete. The Tom Benich Track Memorial Scholarship fund has been established with the TSJC Educational Foundation. Anyone wishing to make a donation can send their contribution to: TSJC Educational Foundation, Tom Benich Track Memorial Scholarship, 600 Prospect St., Trinidad, CO 81082.

TSJC GUNSMITHING SCHOOL

60th Anniversary

A special celebration is being planned for June 8 & 9, 2007 and we hope that YOU will attend. There will be plenty of time for reminiscing and touring the campus and downtown or traveling to Raton, NM to tour the NRA Whittington Center. Santa Fe Trail Days Festival will be held the same weekend, offering additional activities and live music entertainment/dances for you and your family as you revisit your "old stomping grounds."

Would you like to have Individual Class Gatherings? We can help contact your classmates and organize such a gathering. Contact Melva Nolan @ 719-846-5649 or by e-mail at Melva.Nolan@trinidadstate.edu or Toni DeAngelis @ 719-846-5520 or by e-mail at Toni.Deangelis@trinidadstate.edu.

Do you have unfinished projects from when you attended school? Return for a week-long class June 4-8 to complete them in a classroom/shop set aside specifically for TSJC Gunsmithing graduates. Metal work or wood work - we will find a bench for you... and a machine. Contact Chuck Grace at 719-846-5632 for more details. Cost is \$300.

Do you have a special project you have completed? Feel free to bring it (or them) along - an opportunity for you to show off your work to fellow gunsmiths. The display will be available for all to view Saturday afternoon in the Mullen Building.

We will be preparing a special slide presentation using photos from yearbooks, Trojan Tribunes and past reunions, but would also love to have some photos from when you attended TSJC. Send photos to the address below or you can send digital versions to Melva at the above e-mail. (Photos can be returned, be sure to include your name and address.)

You will want to make lodging reservations early, as the hotels/motels fill quickly for Santa Fe Trail Days.

Lodging Information

Best Western Trinidad Inn
I-25 & Exit 13A
Trinidad, CO 81082
719-846-2215

Quality Inn
I-25 & Exit 11
Trinidad, CO 81082
719-846-4491

Super 8 Motel
1924 Freedom Road
Trinidad, CO 81082
719-846-8280

For Campers
Trinidad Lake State Park
32610 Hwy 12
Trinidad, CO 81082
719-846-6951

Trinidad Motor Inn
702 W Main
Trinidad, CO 81082
719-846-2271

Stone Mansion B&B
212 E. 2nd Street
Trinidad, CO 81082
719-845-1625

Tarabino Inn
310 E. 2nd Street
Trinidad, CO 81082
719-846-2115

Make your plans NOW to attend what promises to be a fun-filled get-together for all alumni and friends of the TSJC Gunsmithing Department. Call your friends, arrange reunions within the celebration, make your travel plans, and be sure to attend!!! Registration fee is \$60 per person. Early Bird registrations received by April 6, 2007 will receive a 60th Anniversary T-shirt and be entered into a special door-prize drawing.

Friday, June 8

1-4 p.m. Registration (Mullen Building)
Campus, City tours, trolley and museums
5 p.m. Reception at Trinidad Brewing Company
Individual Class Gatherings

Saturday, June 9

9 a.m. Registration continues (Mullen Building)
Campus, City tours, trolley and museums
12 p.m. BBQ lunch on campus
Gun & Project display (Mullen Building)
Campus, City tours, trolley and museums
NRA Whittington Center tour (on your own)
Individual class gatherings
6 p.m. Dinner followed by entertainment (Sullivan Center General Purpose Room)

Reply Card

Name _____ Years attended _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____
Cost - \$60 person Number attending _____ Total \$ _____

Early-bird deadline – April 6, 2007 Deadline for reservation – May 25, 2007

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: TSJC Gunsmith Reunion

Please mail your reservation and checks to: Trinidad State Junior College

Alumni/Foundation Office

600 Prospect; Campus Box 204

Trinidad, CO 81082



**1st
Gunsmithing
Class**



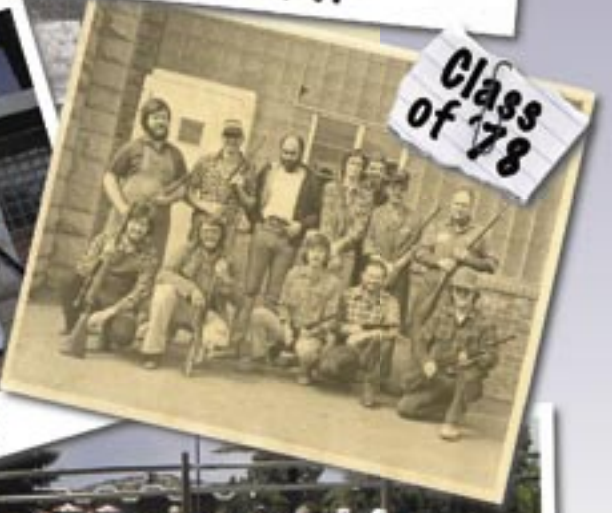
Class of '57



Class of '65



Class of '69



**Class
of '78**



Class of '65



55th Anniversary Group



50th Class Reunion Group



Class of '64

A.R. Mitchell Starts Art Department at TSJC

Written by Cosette Henritze

Most people today think of Trinidad artist A.R. Mitchell as a Western illustrator who earned his reputation on the art scene of the 1930s as a prolific painter of Western pulp magazine covers. Those who knew Mitchell in his later years also remember him as a colorful local character who was determined to preserve historical landmarks and worked hard to establish a museum complex at the Baca House and Bloom Mansion on E. Main Street in Trinidad. Mitchell also made another very important contribution to the community - one in the field of education.

In 1945, he started the art department at Trinidad Junior College. Although a native of Trinidad, Mitchell had been away from southern Colorado for most of his adult life. He'd worked in the advertising business on the west coast, served in the military, then spent many years in the eastern U.S., where he studied with well-known artist Harvey Dunn in New York and then started his own art career. He earned his living doing illustrations and cover art for the popular Western pulp magazines

In 1940, Mitchell returned to Trinidad. His sister Harriet had recently died and Mitch came home to spend time with his other sister, Ethel, and her husband Malcolm Erickson. They lived on a ranch up the Purgatoire River Valley west of Trinidad. Erickson, who had been Las Animas County district attorney and a prominent lawyer in Trinidad, was offered a position in Denver which he believed would benefit his career.

Initially he divided his time between Denver and Trinidad, but then he decided his professional future was in Denver and he and his wife moved there permanently.



Above: Mitchell in class

Right: Mary Carlson

Left: Bill Johnson



in Mitchell's teaching ability and thought they would be a value to the community. During the next two decades, Mitchell would shape an art department at the College which would attract and nurture many aspiring artists.

Among those he instructed would be men and women who would one day make a careers for themselves in the field of art. Paul Milosevich, who studied with Mitchell, later earned commissions from the Country Music Hall of Fame and the Professional Golf Association to do portraits.

Mary Carlson succeeded Mitchell in the art department. Carlson, who first worked as a volunteer helping

with exhibits in the school's archaeology museum, was the Art Department director during the 1960s. While at TSJC, Carlson created a large glass mosaic which now hangs in the school's library.

Another of Mitchell's students, Bill Johnson would

develop his own reputation for being a colorful character. While not as caustic as his mentor, Johnson could match Mitchell in sheer orneriness and didn't take well to students who signed up for art class thinking it would be easy. Johnson was a serious artist and he expected his students to put effort and time into their work as well. There has been a long tradition of excellence in art classes at TSJC from the first classroom sketching and painting sessions directed by A.R. Mitchell in 1945 through the contemporary classes which have been taught by artists Lee Shulin, Lois Peterson, JoAnn Matthews and Doug Holdread.

When the Erickson ranch was put up for sale, Mitchell moved into Trinidad. Within a short time, he was thinking about a career move of his own. He had the desire to get back into the classroom, but this time as a teacher rather than a student. He approached the president of Trinidad Junior College about the possibility of hiring on as an instructor in drawing and painting. It was the autumn of 1945 and College President Peter P. Mickelson was very receptive to Mitchell's suggestion. Not only did Dr. Mickelson hire him as art instructor, he commissioned some landscape paintings from Mitch. The President had confidence

in Mitchell's teaching ability and thought they would be a value to the community. During the next two decades, Mitchell would shape an art department at the College which would attract and nurture many aspiring artists.

Remembering Roy Boyd

As told by Rev. Mary Barbee

There is no phrase that better describes Roy Boyd than “a gentleman and a scholar”. A gentle man indeed – impeccable manners, meticulously groomed, excellent taste in all things. Roy was a man of great character, a firmly grounded spiritual life, an achiever, considerate, kind, an extraordinary friend. There simply are not enough adjectives to describe Roy. He was a cut above in every way.

He was like his principles in life - purposeful, meaningful, full of grace, gently powerful. A loving, kind man dedicated to the well being of his family, his career, his community, his country and others. He commanded your respect not because of anything he said or any dictates issued, but because you knew this man held and lived principles that made life better for us all.

Roy began life as the only child of a Southern Methodist Circuit Rider and a devoted mother. His parents must have been of great faith, because to live the life of the circuit rider family was to move constantly, staying in homes or hotels, dependent on the generosity (or lack thereof) of families who took life on in their own independent and peculiar fashion. Ministering to those who made life work in isolated, often desolate and even desperate conditions of nature and location. It often meant great hardship for the itinerant preacher family, moving from location to location on the circuit. This was the life they were dedicated to living, to serving God.

Roy was less than twelve, when one stormy, cold wintry day he went with his dad out to visit a ranch family. Roy and his parents were staying in the hotel in Kim. Roy and his dad got an early start hoping to get to the ranch, make the visit and return before the storm got to them. We all know what winter is out east of Trinidad, not really predictable, always changing quickly. The snow came earlier than expected and as they made their way back to Kim the Model T slipped to the side of the road and wedged itself firmly into the ditch. Roy’s father worked in the bitter wind and snow to free the car, and finally late that night they got back to the hotel. Within days Roy’s father died of pneumonia.

Raised by his mother and his unmarried school teacher aunt (women schoolteachers were unmarried in those days), Roy began to help with the family income by delivering papers and doing all sorts of odd jobs as were available to a young boy in those days. Bright and adept in school, Roy worked hard both academically and as a teen at the brick yard to help the family income. Roy spent ten years there, and eventually evolved into a position of responsibility as management. He graduated from Trinidad High School in 1935. Trinidad State Junior College rounded out his education graduating in the class of 1939. Along the way he learned to fly airplanes through a fellow who had a plane in town. World War II loomed on the horizon and before long the young Roy enlisted in the Army Air Corps as it was known then. He already was a skilled pilot. Roy must have cut a dashing figure and he demonstrated exceptional skill and courage as a flying ace in many skirmishes of World War II in the European front. The need for skilled pilots far exceeded their availability. Training was critical, yet how to do that in a brief time so that they could get into the war effort was the challenge. Roy was assigned training duty and began to train pilots, refining the flying education time to be as brief as possible yet with the greatest skill possible for lives were at stake. In the European campaign Roy volunteered for duty with the Royal Air Force. The war was in the air and Roy was an essential element in preparing English Air Force men in the technology and flying of American built aircraft.

Roy served until the end of the war and even after, being assigned to help with the wrap up details getting the troops mustered out and home. Roy loved his country, believing in the principles of Democracy. Roy served his country with valor.

Back in Trinidad again, having seen the world, Roy settled into work at the brickyard and soon went to work for TSJC. His service was a lifetime dedication to this institution of learning that he loved. Roy proved himself to be responsible, thoughtful in his leadership, and respected as an essential part of the school and building arts program, Physical Plant Director, Business Manager, Dean Of Administration. He became a legend at the College, eventually serving one year as its Interim President.

Roy was an active member of the United Methodist Church as a board member, singing in the choir and as a guest lecturer in the absence of the pastor. He was a founding member of the TSJC Educational Foundation, past member of Kiwanis and the Isaac Walton League, and the TSJC booster club. He served on the Arthur Roy Mitchell Board of Directors and was the recipient of many awards and recognitions.

Roy was a talented and accomplished musician. Perhaps it was in the genes, for he was a direct descendant of Stephen Foster, the composer of Oh Susanna, Swanee River, My Old Kentucky Home, Beautiful Dreamer and others.

Roy had a special gift for life - a life that was passionate about many things, especially his beloved wife Lucille whom he married in 1965. They enjoyed twenty-five years together before her untimely death in 1990.

Just about everyone who knew Roy Boyd respected and loved him. A man of great kindness, a smile that lifted your spirits, a man of courage, a man that refused to let any of this world’s difficulties have the last word, a man that knew how to make a significant contribution to society. He was admired for his straight-forward honesty, his adventuresome, confident self. His tall, lanky, easy going walk, his smile and hellos, the firm handshake and friendly words were a hallmark of this fine man.



Former Interim President, Roy Boyd passes away September 6, 2006.

Sports Report

Improvement seems to be becoming the norm as far as TSJC sports are concerned. The teams not only improve throughout the year under the tutelage of very dedicated coaches but all of the individual programs are also on the rise. Whether it be on the field, the court or in the classroom Trojans sports are on their way to the top of the JUCO ranks.

Volleyball

Coach Tammy Schaible recently completed her third season at the helm of the Lady Trojan Volleyball team. Schaible, a former Trojan player herself, heads a program that won 16 games this year despite playing in an extremely strong conference. Region IX boasts two of the top teams in the country and the Trojans were competitive with them every time. TSJC even took a few sets from the number two team in the nation, Western Nebraska.

Many former Trinidad State volleyball players have moved on to play at four year schools with great success, and thanks to a strong tradition of academic excellence and equally impressive play on the court, Coach Schaible has been able to sign a group of very strong recruits for next season.

Golf

The TSJC Golf team returned to the links this past fall after a hiatus of a few years. Although their official season won't begin until this spring Coach Rich Holden's team seems ready to play.

Basketball

Coach Holden's other team, the Trinidad State Basketball team, has shown huge improvement in just his third year at the helm. Not only is this the first ten plus win season in quite a few years, the Trojans are also three games over .500 with just a handful of games left to play. This season the Trojans were very athletic and have put on a great show for the home crowds winning six home games in a row.

Softball

The Softball team went through some changes after Coach Paula Seifried moved on this summer, but things seem to be back on track with Coach Steve Swazo at the reigns. Coach Swazo and his assistant, Marty Serna, have the team playing together and fired up for the new season. They have played some impressive competition early and even picked up a win against one of the top teams in the nation last season, Odessa College.

Things even look brighter next season as Coach Swazo has put together an extremely impressive group of recruits for next season.

Baseball

The Trojan Baseball team is looking to build on the success they experienced last season and hoping to springboard into the JUCO World Series this year. Coach Scott Douglas, now in his seventh season, had a banner year in '06 and with his good group of athletes should challenge for the top spot in the region. The baseball team also added a hitting facility to the already impressive field at Central Park.

The 2006-07 seasons have been great and with the improvements made by all the TSJC athletic teams the future should be very bright for Trojan Athletics.

The TSJC Booster Club supports the athletes with scholarships to assist with the cost of the residence halls, meals and books. If you would like to become a member of the Booster Club contact Dan Nuschy at 800-621-8752 ext. 5548 or Ruth Blasi at ext. 5547.

Sports Class Note

Harry Simmons, former TSJC Coach, was recently inducted into the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Hall of Fame. Simmons won more than 700 games in a basketball coaching career that spanned between 1938 and 1980. He began coaching at TSJC then moved to Pueblo Junior College in 1941. Simmons is currently in seven different Halls of Fame, including the NCAA Hall of Fame, the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame and the National Association of Athletic Directors Hall of Fame.

Campaign News



Trinidad State Junior College has been an educational resource since 1925. Currently, TSJC has more than 2,000 students enrolled on its two campuses in Trinidad and Alamosa. Of those students, approximately 80% need financial

assistance to attend College. Many apply for government assistance through Federal Pell Grants and loans. Unfortunately, many students and parents find they earn too much to qualify for the government assistance, but do not earn enough to pay for tuition, books, fees and living expenses. Last year, the TSJC Educational Foundation awarded \$151,000 in scholarships to 110 students for an average of \$1,378 for the year. Sadly, the Foundation was unable to help numerous other deserving students that applied for financial assistance based on financial need and merit.

We asked you, our alumni and friends, to support TSJC students in Trinidad and Alamosa by making a tax-deductible donation to enable the Foundation to help more students with their tuition, books and fees. Many of you responded, grateful for the opportunity to aid our efforts in helping more deserving students receive financial assistance. The following alumnus responded to our appeal, raising more than \$6,500. Our thanks to you for your support!

Frank & Marie Alfonso '54	George Drayton '70	Anthony Nagy '61
Don & Virginia Anderson '51	Virginia Farmer '62	Joe Nevins '49
Jack Anderson '55	Eugene & Valerie Fatur '73	Marjorie (Pernick) Orth '52
Elvera (Gonzales) Archuleta '55	George & Betty (Sayres) Gahm '47/'48	George Ortiz '55
Lorraine Azar '55	Phillip Garcia '69	John Palmer '56
Arthur & Alice Baca '48	Howard Gardner '71	Priscilla (Cordova) Parton '56
Christine (Ozzello) Barela '74	Nino Giarratano '82	Louis Petrizzi, Jr. '70
Raymond Barela '60	Elida (DeRouen) Gibbons '50	Charles Pfalmer '57
Nellie (Zappanti) Barros '93	Larrie Giuliano '79	Frank & Mary Beth (Taylor) Pierz '66/'67
(Albertine) Joyce (Cook) Beakley '60	Pete Gomez '64	Carl Regan '64
Mack Bell '65	Richard Gomez '64	Beverly Reif '71
Tom & Charlotte (Day) Benich '48/'51	Millicent (Ferrendelli) Graff '48	Bob Romero '72
Jim Bjerklie '55	Harold R. Gutierrez '70	Chris Romero '93
John Block '53	Frank Habecker '94	Joseph Rossi '42
James Bonato '59	Harold V. Horner '79	Pete & Wilma Ruiz '53/'53
Mary (Daldegan) Borga '42	Roger Hoxie '63	Abelardo & Betty Sanchez '53
Richard Bright '73	Ricardo James '72	Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Savio '41
Raymond Buckley '64	George Jones '63	Dennis & Susan Scarbrough '68
Philip Cain '52	George Kelloff '49	Robert Scavarda '48
Richard Carter '65	Ted Langowski '47	Bijan Shakiba '76
David & Olga Chojnacki '93	Walter Lempart '65	Walter Steige, Jr. '56
Felix Coca '48	John Leyba '56	Chuck Thomas '65
Kathleen (Mauro) Cole '70	Ron Lopez '65	Rachael Torres Harla '62
Paul Connell '59	Jackie Maccagnan '72	Bruce Trotter '59
Steven Cook '63	Bruce & Diane MacLiver '55	Farley Tucker '80
Paul & Roberta Cordova '49	Leonard Makens '66	Steven Tucker '59
Johnnie Coszalter '41	Tony Mascalco '63	George Turner '71
Daniel Cowen '67	Julie (Cordova) Marlow '56	Donald Vallejos '56
Alan Cunniff '51	Frank Martini '39	David & Karyl Vasquez '58
Lucious Daily, Jr. '50	Dr. Gloria (Skufca) Maupin '50	Helen Veltri '79
Bruce Daley '68	Dorothy (LaCrue) & Emilio Mattorano '67/'71	Frances Vigil '89
Ian & Jerene DeBono '66	John McBee '71	Frank Wenzel '64
Nick DeBono '73	Robert Meek '54	Shirley Werden '60
Mary Lee DeGarbo '59	Kevin Megyeri '81	Marie Williams '29
Pete & Antoinette Deluca '49/'74	Cheryl (Dickinson) Monheiser '65	F. Morton Wilson '52
Kenneth Dimick '52	Dennis & Jan (Cavelli) Montrella '64/'67	James Wolgemuth '65
Lou & Angela DiPaolo '68	Steven Moses '82	Geraldine (Cuzzetto) Yoakum '55

We hope you will consider future contributions to TSJC. The support of our alumni is the most powerful tool we have. With your help, the Foundation continues to provide the resources to assure a quality education for present and future generations. It is not too late; you too can be a part of the growing TSJC family of donors. Send your contributions to TSJC Educational Foundation; 600 Prospect, Box 204; Trinidad, CO 81082

Class Notes

1940's

Joseph Rossi, '42, retired in 1990 after forty years from Quality Pontiac, Quality Jeep Chrysler as Secretary Treasurer-controller and of Western Preferred Life Insurance Co. as Director and Treasurer. His most cherished wife of 63 years, Genevieve Pfalmer, passed away in 2005. They had four children, Gerald, Judith and twins, David and Donald. In addition to their four children they have eight grand children and two great-grand daughters with one more on the way.

Felix Guereca, '48, recently shared with our office that the education he received at TSJC in accounting was very beneficial for his career in the Air Force and later in the business world.

John Parise, '48, passed away in December 2005 in Folsom, CA. He earned a California Administrators Certificate from Sacramento State University in 1956 and an MA from UNC in Greeley in 1964. He was a teacher and an administrator until he retired in 1988. He was active in all sports, most of all senior softball, playing until 2001.

Harry Sayre, '48, attended University of Denver after graduating from TSJC and was admitted to practice law in 1952. For twenty some years he practiced law in the Trinidad area. In addition to his own practice, Sayre served as a Las Animas County Judge from 1953-1960, City of Trinidad Attorney from 1966-1978, Assistant District Attorney from the Third Judicial District from 1979-1987 and Senior Judge of the State of Colorado from 1987-1991. Harry is currently serving on the TSJC Advisory Council.

Thomas Mehas, '48 following TSJC, Thomas attend the University of Colorado. Soon after, Thomas started at Los Alamos and was transferred to Washington, D.C. as part of a group that made the material to build bombs. He received training as a radiation specialist. He moved to Las Vegas, NV and began a 30 year career with Reynolds Electrical

& Engineering. Reynolds was the prime contractor for the government at the Nevada Nuclear Test Site for above ground nuclear testing. His job was to make sure that people were safe in the area. Thomas is married with two daughters and two grandchildren. Thomas recalled the highlight of his junior college years was that of the 75 students attending at the time, only 11 were male, and they all played on the basketball team!

1950's

Frances (Mehas) Evans, '50 (Thomas' sister) married gunsmithing student James Evans, '50. While married, they had 5 boys. Frances worked for the State of Colorado and then worked many years with the Child Opportunity Program that had 25 childcare classrooms around the Denver area. When the program was discontinued, the building was sold and she and two others formed the Smith Knight Foundation, where she is a Board Member. The purpose of the Foundation is to help students who want to further their education but may not have the means to do so. She works part-time at the Coors Credit Union in Golden.

Frank Clarke, '53, was inducted into the University of Colorado Alumni "C" Club 2006 Living Legends in October. Congratulations!

Jay (Gerald) Cimino, '58, Chief Executive Officer of Phil Long Dealerships, was one of nine dealers nationwide honored by Ford Motor Co. in 2006 for commitment to their communities. Cimino has led Phil Long, which has 17 dealerships in Colorado Springs, Denver and Pueblo, to donate more than \$3 million to numerous community initiatives that benefit military families, youth, children and the needy. Cimino said giving back to the community is "an honor." "It's what I can do, so we do it," he said. Jay was the guest speaker at the 2006 Fun & Friendraiser dinner held by the TSJC Educational Foundation and

recently helped to establish the Trinidad Community Foundation. *Editor's Note: Phil Long Dealerships have partnered with TSJC's automotive program (see related story) contributing \$1,000,000 for the program's facilities, equipment, and faculty salaries. In addition, a scholarship fund has been established for students in the automotive program.*

Pat (Weeden) Sanders, '58, is the Noah's Ark Animal Shelter Manager in Trinidad. She started working for the Longmont Humane Society in 1980. She left that position in 1991 began working for a veterinarian part-time until she and her husband, **Carl ('55)** moved to Westcliffe in 1996 and then to Trinidad in 1999. Pat and Carl have four children and six grandchildren.

1960's

Donald Farmer, '62, passed away in December, 2005. His wife, Ginny, says "Don always spoke very fondly of his education and times at Trinidad. For 42 years he proudly served his country, working at the Nevada Test Site and after 9-11 with Homeland Security. Over the years he received many awards and commendations for his hard work and great ability to work under difficult circumstances. He had a zest for life and people that is rare." Ginny went on to say "anyone who knew Don was awestruck with his sense of humor and his ability to tell great stories."

James Lamprecht, '65, passed away in January 2006. In addition to the AA that he earned at TSJC he also had a BA from Western State College, an MA from Adams State and additional education in Washington, Wisconsin and Arizona. Jim worked at Laramie County Community College from 1980 until his retirement in 2003. Before that, he served at Central Wyoming College and Wyoming State Department of Education. He was honored with the LCCC Foundation Lifetime Heritage Award in 2004 for his dedication and contributions toward assisting students in achieving their education goals.

Ralph Gagliardi, '66, retired from First National Bank in Trinidad after 30 years of dedication and service.

Patricia Mills, '66 moved from Trinidad to Denver and remained there for 17 years. "I worked for the State of Colorado with various agencies as a Program Assistant II. I then moved to the San Jose, CA area and became a legal assistant/secretary. After five years in California I moved to the Puget Sound area as a legal secretary in downtown Seattle." In 2000 Patricia moved back to Colorado to be near her mother who was very ill and has since passed away. She has family members from Trinidad that she cares for – Steve & Ann Amador – Steve has been in a nursing home for a year and Ann lives with Patricia. Patricia presently works for a law firm in downtown Denver as a legal assistant. In her spare time, she enjoys gardening, the mountains, camping and her all-time favorite – **hot tubs**.

Frank Bambrick, '67, Worked for Koh-I-Noor Rapidograph, Inc. in inside sales following graduation until 1990 (as Warehouse Data Entry Supervisor), when they started to "down size." Frank married Connie Cooke in 1972 and received a BS Degree in Business from Trenton State College, 1975 (now called Ther College of NJ). He worked at various 911 center jobs throughout the 90's, and in 1999 began working for T-Mobile in Customer Service, Technical Support, Wireless Data Technician until 2003. "I now work for Aetna Insurance, Consumer Funds Services Department and am semi-retired working only two days a week now and enjoying my time off." Frank & Connie have 3 children – Sandy, Mike and Mark.

Melvina Lynch, '67, taught high school for 28 years and retired in 2004. "I miss teaching and hope to return to the classroom." In her years of teaching, Melvina was in Who's Who in Teaching three times. Also, her son was rated number one in basketball in the State of New Jersey in 1993.

Jim Morison, '67, has created a web page with a focus on two visits he made to Drop City in May, 1967. Jim

states "it is pretty self-explanatory with pictures and text." He unearthed two photos and decided that maybe it would be interesting to share on-line <http://members.networld.com/look/dropcity/revisited.htm>. Jim plans to add a couple of other things he wrote while a student at TSJC, which will be added as he has time.

Gregory Berg, '67, went to Indiana State and received his Bachelors Degree in Industrial Education, then a Masters and PHD from Purdue. Greg taught for 35 years and retired in 2003. He and his wife, Linda were married in 1974 and have two daughters.

George Newnam, '68, looked back over his years and recalled his most pleasurable times, his toughest cases and his career in general as he retired from the Third Judicial District in January 2007. His future should prove to be just as interesting as one of his daughters and her husband are moving back to Trinidad from Dallas, TX to open Newnam Land Law. Both of his daughters practice law, carrying on the family tradition.

Spencer Haywood, '68, is not convinced that everyone remembers or celebrates what he did, outside of scoring a lot of NBA and ABA points, 14,502 in all and continually wowing people with his skills. Teenagers are no longer turned away at the NBA door because of Haywood, who smashed basketball's age barrier. Before Haywood came along, it was four seasons in college, and no way around it whatsoever. The decades-old rule he prompted was repealed this year, requiring at least one season of college ball. Spencer now lives in the Detroit suburbs with his second wife of 15 years, Linda. He's a family man with 3 daughters at home Nikiah (21), Shaakira (15), and Isis (12), and Zulekah (26) from his previous marriage. Haywood's Seattle Supersonics jersey No. 2 has recently been retired.

Connie (Colangelo) Hanrahan, '69, is owner and director of Body Therape (located in Santa Fe, NM) and a graduate of the Scherer Institute of Natural Healing. She is certified in Swedish, Connective Tissue, Shiatsu, Integrative Body Work and Cranial Sacral. She has

worked with physical therapy patients, trauma victims and athletes. Connie developed her own intuitive approach to body work that involves working with the breath to release trapped energy in the body and help restore equilibrium in body mind and spirit. For more information, please see www.bodytherape.com. After TSJC, Connie attended Colorado University with a degree in Liberal Arts. She has one daughter and one grandson. Her brother Stan and family live in Trinidad.

Bob Gabrilson, '69 recently contacted the TSJC Alumni Office to make contact with a fellow classmate Gary Novinger and Todd Stafne. *Editor's Note: In keeping with privacy laws, the TSJC Alumni Office does not provide information without consent. When asked for information on former students, the TSJC Alumni Office policy is to forward the requesting student's contact information to the desired student allowing them to elect to contact the requesting party.*

Frank Giuliano, '69, went on to what is now Colorado State University at Pueblo. He thought he was going to be a teacher. He majored in social sciences, minored in accounting (which helped him get a job at a bank). Then he got a teaching job in Alamosa, CO, however, he only lasted a few months before being rehired in the banking business. He moved to Denver, CO in '86. He is now a branch manager for American Home Mortgage.

1970's

Joanne Slanovich, '70, received her BA degree from Adams State College in Alamosa in 1972 and completed her Masters Degree in Education in 1978. Joanne began her career with Douglas County Schools teaching fourth and fifth grades. She recently helped develop the criteria for a component of the program entitled "Master Teacher" and currently resides in Highlands Ranch, CO. In her free time she enjoys music, reading, theatre and traveling.

Ricardo James, '72, after TSJC Ricardo didn't anticipate that it would take him so long to get back in college, but after 9 years of going part time, he finally received his BA degree. Currently he's

Alumni Events

Wearing T-shirts with "I broke the ice in Alaska" emblazoned on the front, alumni and friends of Trinidad State Junior College boarded the Royal Caribbean Vision of the Seas on June 23 for a seven night trip to the Inside Passage of Alaska.

Almost 50 people joined the tour that began in Seattle with stops at Juno, Skagway, Icy Strait Point, Ketchikan and a visit to Mendenhall Glacier. "We broke the ice," explained Toni DeAngelis, TSJC Director of Development and assistant to the president, "because this was the first of what we hope will be a number of fundraising cruises to benefit the TSJC Educational Foundation."

Royal Caribbean International and Cruises Inc., of Fort Garland, Colo., made donations to the foundation

based on the number of staterooms sold. "Only a couple of cruise lines have a program like this," said Darlene Jordan of Cruises Inc., who made the tour arrangements for the group. "We appreciate the help Royal Caribbean gave us in making this such a successful trip for everyone who went."

The final total of dollars raised for the TSJC Educational Foundation was close to \$3500. The Foundation is currently considering possible destinations for a cruise in 2008. "Considering how successful this trip was," De Angelis said, "we're looking at a return trip to Alaska." Contact the Alumni/Foundation Office for suggestions on other cruise ideas. Details should be available soon regarding the group's next trip.

The mission of the Trinidad State Junior College Educational Foundation is to promote the growth and development of Trinidad State Junior College. Funds raised by the Foundation provide money for scholarships, programs and the ever-expanding capital improvement needs of the school.



TSJC alumni and friends aboard the Royal Caribbean "Vision of the Seas" as they began their Alaskan fundraising cruise benefiting the TSJC Educational Foundation.

5th Annual Party at Coors Field



On Campus

Phil Long Donates \$1 Million



The Phil Long Family of Dealerships has a long history of investing in the future of communities throughout the state of Colorado. A partnership developed last fall between Phil Long Dealerships and Trinidad State Junior College (TSJC). Jay Cimino, Phil Long Dealerships CEO and President, and TSJC alumnus has committed to providing a state-of-the-art training facility on the TSJC campus. Phil Long Dealerships has agreed to subsidize the equipment for the program; contribute to administration of its faculty; and provide skilled technicians that will train and prepare students with cutting edge technology to enter the competitive automotive industry, for the duration and success of the program. Nearly a million dollars over a three year period will be invested in the TSJC automotive program, with all equipment and improvements made to the facility becoming permanent property of TSJC.

President Woods noted that the purpose of the partnership is to graduate a more qualified and trained employment pool for the automotive industry. "Business and industry partnerships allow us to train students on up to date state-of-the-art equipment," said Woods.

On hand for the ribbon cutting ceremony, Barbara McKellar, chairman of the Colorado Board of Community Colleges and Occupational Education said, "There is nothing more exciting than watching great collaborative efforts between community colleges and businesses. It's a win, win for everybody—the College, the industry, Phil Long, the community and the students graduating from this program." "Phil Long has established solid ties in Southern Colorado, particularly in my home town of Trinidad," noted Cimino. "We are proud of these relationships and the positive educational and economical impact they make; and we are proud to be the automotive leader in cultivating a partnership of this kind with TSJC."

The EPIC Program

This two-year program is designed to prepare students for entry level employment in the coal bed methane gas production field and related industrial construction. It serves students who wish to gain employment in natural gas fields and related construction and maintenance industries as a mining and petroleum technician. Student enrolling into these programs will have the option of a 9-month certificate or a two-year Associate of Applied Science degree.

The skills acquired in the Diesel/Heavy Equipment portion of the program will prepare students to enter employment in energy production and industrial construction with focus on diesel engines, fuel systems, power trains, electrical and hydraulic systems, construction and gas well equipment.

The Welding portion of the program is designed to prepare the student with the skills necessary to enter the field of welding, fabrication, repair, and/or service. Students will learn the latest concepts, principles and practical applications to help begin a career as a welding professional in Energy Production and Industrial Construction.

Heavy Equipment Operator is the third portion of the EPIC program and prepares students to enter employment as heavy equipment/CDL operators. Students will receive their CDL license training and basic operator training on backhoes, excavators, bulldozers, and motor graders. Upon completion, students can enter employment as entry level operators in general construction, mining, road construction, and related construction operations.

"Success always begins with imagination, backed by passion, vision, being optimistic and thinking huge," said Woods. The EPIC Program continues to celebrate success with over 50 students enrolled in the program, the financial support of industry, and the grant received from the Federal Government.

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Photos Courtesy of City of Trinidad Tourism Board

Class Notes

Continued from page 19

waiting to hear if he was accepted into law school. His goal is to one day get his PhD. He noted that it may have taken him longer than most to accomplish his goals, but he will keep trying as hard as he can.

Al Bolduc, '74, has been gunsmithing since his graduation and now has a gun parts business in Arkansas.

Jeff Mangino, '76, was appointed the new President of First National Bank in Trinidad. Jeff has been with the bank since 1998 and has served as Manager of Internal Audit, Loan Analyst, Commercial Lending Officer and is a member of the Board of Directors. He has a degree in Accounting and Business Administration and is a CPA, as well as a graduate of the Colorado School of Banking.

Richard Sandoval, '77, graduated from Rutgers University as Valedictorian having achieved a 4.0 while working fulltime.

David Montera, '78, studied speech and drama at TSJC then "realized that while I enjoyed drama and being in plays, I wasn't going to make it doing that. So I went to UNC (in Greeley), majored in English and got a teaching degree." David is now an English teacher at Centennial High School in Pueblo, CO and coach of the school's speech and debate team, which has dominated regional competition during the past 20 or so years. He was declared by the *Pueblo Chieftain* as Pueblo's most successful active coach.

1980's

Alan Frush, '81, states that he was "hired directly from the Computer Maintenance Program at TSJC by Sperry Univac" (now Lockheed Martin). He worked there as a Senior Field Engineer for 17 years supporting the US Navy, Marine Corp, Army and Air Force as a company representative of Lockheed Martin. Alan went back to school and received his BSBA degree in Computer Science

and Business Administration from Rider University and is currently employed for a company called HealthTrio. Alan's cousin Jay, '86 also went through the Computer Maintenance Program.

Ed Dionisio, '86, after leaving TSJC and Trinidad, he moved to Denver and worked for Continental Airlines as a baggage handler. He also worked for Retail Systems of Colorado and POS Systems of Colorado as a Field Technician. Until recently, Ed worked for South Seas Data for the 13 years as the VP of Operations. He's decided to take a new path and is currently in the middle of a career change. Ed and his wife, Gerri have three children, Carly, Sidney and Christian. He also has a daughter, Brittany, who graduated from Trinidad High School and now lives in Lakewood.

1990's

Mark Grudzielanek, '91, has one son, Bryce, and resides in California. Grudzielanek, whose 54 doubles for Montreal in 1997 established a National League record for shortstops, was on third base in 2003 as a member of the Chicago Cubs when slugger Sammy Sosa's corked bat was exposed. Mark played for the Kansas City Royals last season.

Edward Herrera, '95, was valedictorian of the class, majored in electronics and was a member of Phi Theta Kappa. He married his wife Cathy Collyer ('91 and '95) in 1994. Unfortunately, Ed battled depression for many years and chose to take his own life.

Tracey (Cloete) Nichols, '96, is now living in Australia with her husband, Trevor and one year old son, Euan. Tracey and Trevor are awaiting the arrival of their second child in February.

David Woodard, '97, went on from TSJC to earn a BA in Social Studies from Oklahoma Panhandle State in 2000. He took an assistant coaching position at Golden High and realized that coaching would replace playing as his new calling.

Along with his new wife, Jamie, Woodard returned to Panhandle State to acquire teaching credentials, which he earned in 2003. After three years on staff at Guymon High School in Oklahoma, he accepted the head coaching job in 2005. The baseball program has grown from 12 to 36 student athletes under his tenure.

Kellie Armijo, '98, recently joined the staff of First National Bank of Trinidad. She went on from TSJC to earn her Bachelors degree from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. Kellie and her husband, Tony, have two sons – Dylan (6) and Jacob (2).

Michael Maline, '98, received his degree - Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine - from Oklahoma State University in May 2006.

2000's

Gilson DeJesus, '01, recently married, in addition to winning the State Championship in Brazil. Gilson is planning to "move back to the US and work with Basketball."

Megan Stumpf, '04, recently joined the staff of First National Bank of Trinidad. She plans to continue toward a Bachelors degree. When not working, Megan enjoys spending time with family and friends.

Steve Sanchez, '06, landed the position of Biological Science Technician (Fisheries) with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the Ennis National Fish Hatchery, Ennis, Montana in September 2006. In a recent e-mail to his instructor, Ted Smith, Steve offered, "I would like to thank you and the entire staff for the awesome program you have at Trinidad State. I would not be where I am today if it was not for you! Keep up the excellent work and tell everyone to stay the course and the jobs will come."

Michael Archuleta, '06, recently announced the completion of his training with Microsoft and Comp TIA. The Microsoft Certified Systems Engineering

Certification is one of the top and hardest certifications tests Microsoft offers. Comp TIA A+ confirms a technician's ability to perform tasks such as installation, configuration, diagnosing, preventative maintenance and basic networking. Michael is currently a partner in *Get Wired Computer Services* in Trinidad and pursuing his technical education through Colorado Technical University online, majoring in software design and engineering.

Graduation 2006 Honored Alums

Lena (Maglia) Cimino, '36, was only 15 when she started at TSJC. After graduating at the age of 17, she was teaching professionally. Lena attended the University of Northern Colorado in the summers to complete her Bachelor's Degree. Lena's teaching career took her all over Las Animas County. During that time, she was the first woman to serve as an assistant superintendent of schools in Las Animas County. Finally in 1963, she devoted her work full-time with school dist. #1 where she served until retiring in 1980.

Veronica (Marta) Goodrich, '56, wanted to be a journalist, but her family was somewhat skeptical. Most job prospects at that time for women were in teaching or secretarial positions. She held on to her dream, and after graduating from TSJC she attended Denver University in 1958 with a degree in journalism. After working in the industry for a couple of years, she married and preferred to stay home with her children...not going back to work until 1980 when their youngest daughter went off to college. She went back to school and attended the college for financial planning and earned her securities license. She now works with Cap West Securities and was recently honored as their top producer – the first woman to receive that honor, and was chosen as one of Colorado's most dependable Money Managers and was featured in an ad in *United Airlines' Magazine, Hemispheres*, in April 2006. Veronica has been a registered representative with CapWest Securities, Inc. for many years. Veronica and her husband, Hile have two daughters and two grandsons.

Carol (Cimino) Patrick, '66, followed in her mother's footsteps (Lena Cimino) by pursuing a career in education. After TSJC, Carol attended Colorado College and received her Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts. She started teaching in the Colorado Springs public schools as an art instructor and at one point, put her fine arts degree to work in illustrating science textbooks. In 1974, she took a job with TSJC in the journalism department. She enjoyed journalism so much that she returned to the University of Northern Colorado to complete her Masters in Public Relations and Journalism in 1981. Carol became TSJC's Public Relations Director, winning numerous awards over the years. Carol continued to work for TSJC as Dean of Extended Studies until her retirement in 2002. Carol's son, Patrick, graduated from TSJC in 1993 and she and her husband, Pat have 2 grandchildren.

Gary Vezzani, '76, started at TSJC after being fired – by his dad! He and a friend enrolled in the electronics/computer maintenance program. Gary graduated and achieved technical support field engineer in only two years with Sperry-Univac, where he worked for 5 years. During that time he was called out to support various Navy and Marine Corps fire control systems computers and also spent four months on a Japanese destroyer supporting their computer systems as well as computer training. In 1981, he was given a second chance with his dad and began his career with Walsenburg Sand and Gravel and is currently vice-president. Gary has helped the company increase their revenues 10 fold from 1981 and has achieved bonding power to 10 million dollars. Gary has two children and four grandchildren, and by the way, holds the Walsenburg golf course record (64).

Ellen Amato, '86, came to TSJC after receiving her Bachelor of Science degree from University of Colorado and being unable to find a job. She chose the Electronics/Computer Maintenance Program. In her words, "it was a vocational program that targeted a specific segment of the job market." Ellen worked for Unisys from 1986-1992, LAN Technologies from 1992-1993, and Qualmed from 1993-2001. In 2001, she received her Bachelor of



Science in Computer Information Systems from Colorado State University-Pueblo. Now, Ellen and her husband, Ron own Amato Lumber in Trinidad. Ellen and Ron have been married for 33 years and have three children.

David Brown, '96, received his AAS in Gunsmithing and returned for a third year to receive his certificate in Gun Repair. David was a member of Phi Theta Kappa while at TSJC and credits his father for teaching him the value of a good work ethic. He worked for K&P Gun Company. Currently, David works for Stock Building Supply in Pueblo. David met his wife, Jennifer while attending TSJC. They have 2 children. Emma Jane is 3 and Jack is 1 year old.

In Memoriam

Donald Brooks, Friend
Clara Dunning, Friend
Marie Macaluso, Friend
Frances (Hester) Valencich, Friend
Aline Wicken Hale, '36
Roy Boyd, '39
Henry Trollinger '40
Jim "Spank" Blasing, '43
William "Bill" Costigan, '46
Tom Benich, '48
John Parise, '48
Ines (Pasquin) Gassino, '49
Jacqueline Jacobson, '50
Myrna (Spahr) Wheeler, '50
Robert "Conejo" Garcia, '56
Eloy Lucero, '56
Lester White, '59
Earl (Dave) Kilgroe, '60
Edna Marie Dudrick, '61
Donald Farmer, '62
Arlene Ortiz, '63
Corrine P. Pacheco, '63
Marie E. Scuzzaro Johnson, '63
James Lamprect, '65
Martin V. Beatrice, '72
Joseph Chavez, '75
Monica (Armijo) Kosovich, '77
George S. Ortiz, Jr., '82
Edward T. Herrera, '95
Gregory D. (Salazar) Gonzales, '05
Ron Julian, '06

Let it snow!



Photos taken by
Ed Samora '72
TSJC Custodian

Let it snow!



Let it snow!

The Trinidad area and much of Southeastern Colorado were brought to a standstill for many days due to major blizzard with massive accumulations of snow during the later part of December. Snow accumulations ranged from 3-4 feet with drifts as high as 7 feet. Thanks to the tremendous efforts of the TSJC maintenance crew and with the help of outside contractors, snow removal efforts allowed TSJC students to return to cleared pathways and parking lots though mountains of snow still remain more than a month later! The dedicated employees that worked for 22 straight days to clear the snow are to be commended for a job well done.



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