

Alumni

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, September 27
Pizza Dinner

Friday, October 2
Varsity Football Game

Saturday, October 3
Alumni Flag Football

**Greet RLS Special
Guests of Honor Dr.
Jergenson and Keith
Wilson during
Homecoming Weekend**

Many of you remember Dr. J for his visionary leadership of Rockford Lutheran School during tough economic times in the early 1980's. Many though remember him for his ability to communicate with parents and students touching many lives in the RLS community.

Principal in the mid-80's, Keith Wilson, (aka Mr. Wilson) is best remembered as the principal who looked out for all his students demonstrating care and concern for their well-being. Mr. Wilson is also credited with his visionary leadership particularly in developing the RLS school system which opened the RLS doors to children in grades K-12.

Mark your calendars and plan on gathering with RLS Alumni on Friday, October 2 at 7:00 p.m. when the Crusader's Varsity Football team hosts Genoa Kingston. Admission and beverages are FREE for Alumni with attached coupons. Look for your coupons in this newsletter!

Reunion Dinner and Dance

Join RLS Alumni for dinner and dancing at Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Country Club, 5151 Guilford Road, Saturday evening, October 3. A buffet dinner will begin at 6:00 p.m. with dancing beginning at 8:00 p.m. Music provided by "Bullet". Cost per person is \$40 which includes dinner and dancing. Dance only is \$10 per person. Dress is casual – no jeans please. Alumni are seated according to graduation year. For reservations and further information, contact Cindy Beyer at 815-988-8982 or hairbendr1@comcast.net. Please RSVP no later than Monday, September 28. No reservations are necessary for the dance.

LHS Alumni T-shirts and Sweatshirts for sale

Alumni t-shirts are \$10 (size xxl \$12), hooded sweatshirts are \$25 and a long sleeve shirt is \$15. Both are black and feature a purple shaded logo with the words "Rockford Lutheran (est. 1965) Crusaders". LHS Alumni wear is available by calling the school office or will be available for purchase at the Homecoming game.

Saturday, October 3 Alumni Flag Football

What's Homecoming weekend without an opportunity for RLS Alumni to play football – flag football that is!

When:

Saturday, October 3 at
11:00 a.m.

Where:

West field of RLS campus

Who:

Alumni and their families

Gather together with old friends and new for a friendly game of flag football followed by a meal of burgers, hotdogs and more provided by the RLS Boosters! Alumni are invited to gather at RLS on Saturday morning, October 3 at 11:00 for a game of flag football. Bring your friends. Bring your families! Bring your appetites!



Alumni All Stars Game

Welcome Class of 2009

Did you know the Class of 2009...

- has 97 graduates
- 99% of graduates pursuing post-secondary education
- a composite ACT score of 24.2
- was awarded \$1.6 million in college scholarships
- 18% of graduates are Illinois State Scholars
- 2 graduates are members of the U.S. Army and Marine Corps

Congratulates to the 2009 Graduates of Rockford Lutheran on your achievements!

Alumni attending Bradley University, Peoria, mark your calendars for Sunday, November 1, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.! Pr. Carol will be heading to Peoria to take you to dinner. Where: Avanti's on Main. For more information, check the Alumni link on the RLS website: rockfordlutheran.org.

Class of 1999 Reunion

2009 is the year of your ten-year reunion. Join your graduating class at Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Country Club, 5151 Guilford Road, Saturday evening, October 3 for an evening filled with old and new memories. For further information contact: Nick McDonald Nmcdonald7@hotmail.com 3020 Ridgetop Court High Ridge, MO 63049

**2nd Generation LHS Graduates from Class of 2009**

Pictured are: Sandra Byers, Kylie Hartenberger, Nick Galliano, Dave Galliano, Whitney Paris, Kelly Paris

We're on Facebook!

Check us out on the Rockford Lutheran Facebook page!

Keeping in Touch

Please let us know you're current addresses. We want to keep in touch with our Alumni on a regular basis.

Send information to: mscott@rockfordlutheran.org

Contact Information:

Margie Henning
d.hennig@comcast.net
815.332.2152

Or

Pr. Carol S. Gates
cgates@rockfordlutheran.org
815.877.9551

Alumni Council Members

Sue (Cate) Arntzen
Margie (Peterson) Hennig
Dan Hennig
Bettie Jo (Hennig) Bertram
Rebecca (Webb) Wilson
Tom Jenks
Scott Erdman
Tricia Blume

While You're Young and Hungry! Sunday Night Pizza

Sunday, September 27, 2009 at 6:00 p.m., Alumni attending Rock Valley College and Rockford College are invited to a FREE, (YES FREE) pizza dinner at Old Chicago Pizzeria, 6280 E. State Street, Rockford. Alumni, faculty members and RLS Exec. Dir. Pastor Carol Gates will be your hosts. Mark your calendars and plan to join us for a delicious free meal and the opportunity to meet other RLS alumni attending Rock Valley and Rockford College. This event is open to all students currently enrolled at Rock Valley and Rockford College. Look to the RLS Alumni link on the RLS website at rockfordlutheran.org for more information.



Scott Erdman
Assistant Principal

Alumni Highlights

What do you say about yourself? My friends would say one thing and I would say another. Sometimes we think more highly of our past and remember things differently. I graduated from Rockford Lutheran back in the day (1991). It seems so long ago. To remember those years brings back great memories of sports, and having fun in the classroom. Remembering the great teachers I had, and the fun in their classes, for example, sitting in Mrs. Gerrond's class eating chips before the state tournament or laughing at Mr. Ploss and his golf club. School was a family, and every student enjoyed coming to school. It was a time of building close friendships. People say you will remember your college friends before your high school friends. Not always true. My best friends came from Rockford Lutheran, and almost 20 years later we are still best friends.

My path after high school led me to Concordia, Wisconsin, where I was able to learn and play sports because of the training I received from my high school. Once I finished college, the Lord gave me a challenge that I believed has shaped my adult life. The Lord called me to teach in the inner-city of Detroit. What a great experience! I believe all should experience the joys and struggles of teaching in the inner-city. I taught there for twelve years and truly enjoyed the years there. While I was there, I taught almost every subject, except for math and english (the school might have gone down if I did, not my strengths) was also athletic director, guidance counselor, and coach. I coached

at one point almost every sport leading the boys basketball team to the school's only elite eight appearance. The Lord knows our plans and calls us in his time.

It was a hard decision to leave a school that I loved. The Lord called me back to Rockford Lutheran High School, and I believe God has called me back to give back to a school that provided a great foundation for my college and professional life. Also knowing that the administrator (Don Kortze) had been a teacher that I had admired and respected made it more comfortable coming back to a school of which I have so many memories.

The question can be asked was it weird to return to where I went to school? Yes and no. Seeing some of the same faces, even though they have aged, and going into the gym and looking up to see the teams I was a part of was strange, but, on the other hand, seeing the new additions, new teachers, and how much the school has grown over the years made it seem like a new place to me. It is a true blessing for me to be back here at Rockford Lutheran, first as a teacher and now as assistant principal. Who would have ever thought? Not me. I am enjoying the new position and look forward to the meeting new students, parents and old friends. I am excited about the joys, struggles, and challenges of changing the lives of children.

God's Blessings,

Scott Erdman



Return Service Requested



Rockford Lutheran School
 1411 N. Alpine Road
 Rockford, IL 61114

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