

# Hilltop News

Spring 2007

A newsletter by the North Central Texas College Ex-Students Association.

## Scholars thank donors at annual breakfast 'Education is a Magical Experience' is the theme

GAINESVILLE – There's no magic formula for success in life, but if there were, its chief ingredient would be education. In fact, "education is a magical experience," according to the theme of this year's annual NCTC Foundation Donors and Scholars Breakfast at North Central Texas College.

Since 1986, the NCTC Foundation has awarded a total of \$1.5 million in scholarship help to 4,500 recipients.

Education certainly has amazing transformative powers, attendees were told by featured speaker Misty Hamner, member of the NCTC math faculty and most recent recipient of the college's prestigious Excellence in Teaching Award. Hamner expressed gratitude on behalf of all college faculty and staff to the donors who have provided the resources necessary to fund scholarships.

"Education truly can work

magic," NCTC president Dr. Eddie Hadlock said. "It empowers us to become better leaders, to react to and deal with problems in a more proactive and positive way."

Continuing a breakfast tradition, two award recipients presented their own stories to the audience and expressed gratitude to the donors on behalf of all students who have received Foundation scholarships. This year's student speakers were Rebecca Reiter of Lindsay, recipient of the Student Government Association Scholarship and Adrian "Lex" Parker of Gainesville, recipient of the Florence Estes Scholarship.

"I can think of no better way to explain what this Foundation is all about and what the generosity of these donors really means than to hear from students like Lex and Rebecca," said Ed Wright,

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**Students provide new endowed scholarship** – One of the newest fully endowed scholarship funds established through the NCTC Foundation this year was made possible by students themselves. Foundation board president Ed Wright, far left, and NCTC president Dr. Eddie Hadlock, far right, formally accept a check to endow the NCTC Student Government Association Scholarship from SGA representatives, left to right, Sam Shasteen, senator; JoAnna Casiano, Gainesville secretary-treasurer; Daisy Garcia, Gainesville vice president; Rebecca Reiter, cabinet chairperson; and Kendall Butler, parliamentarian. The presentation came at the Foundation's recent annual Donors and Scholars Breakfast.

## EX's seek nominees for distinguished awards

The NCTC Ex-Students Association is currently seeking nominations for the F.M. Hemphill Distinguished Alumni Award. The Ex-Students Association established the F.M. Hemphill Distinguished Alumni Award 13 years ago, named in honor of the college's distinguished president of the Class of 1926 to recognize NCTC graduates and former students who have achieved distinction in their chosen field and have shown exceptional leadership qualities.

Last year's recipient was

Dr. Steve Thompson. Other past recipients include Margaret Parx Hays, Jane Greer Hardy, Leon Liddell, Irene Clark Stiles, Curtis Gilliland, Shelby Fletcher, Johnny Leftwich, General Lew Allen, Jr., W.E. Chalmers, Dr. L.D. Clark, Marita McMillian, William "Bill" R. King, Sr., and Donna Fielder.

Three years ago, the NCTC Ex-Students Association established the North Central Texas College Community Service Award to

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**Thanksgiving luncheon** – The NCTC EX's hosted a Potluck Thanksgiving Luncheon Nov. 20, 2006 for all students, faculty and staff in the Student Activities Center. EX's were able to visit with employees and students and enjoy the delicious variety of food.

## From the desk of the President

**By Patsy Wilson  
Ex-Students Association**

Someone once wrote that “Where there is no vision, the people perish.” From time to time, as I indulge in things philosophical and contemplate the journey of life, I dwell on those words, and I realize that if it were not for the vision of a dedicated educator and a group of forward-thinking citizens, North Central Texas College would not be the second oldest continuously-operating public two-year college in Texas.

When I consider that in 1924, the people of Gainesville possessed the vision of providing students in Gainesville and neighboring communities with the opportunity to attend college, I am amazed. And in 1959, Cooke County residents voted to provide a campus that would accommodate students from throughout the county. Veterans from three wars joined the “kids” in classes on the hill, and someone had the vision to provide evening classes so that the adults who worked during the day could also attend classes.

Without our school, how many students of all ages would not have obtained the education they have today? To me, that is a sobering thought. I am one of those who would not have attained a college degree, much less a graduate degree, had it not been for Cooke County Junior College. Indeed, many members of my family would not enjoy the middle-class lifestyle they have today if NCTC had not been available to them in the three-county service area of Cooke, Denton, and Montague counties.

As ex-students, we have reaped the benefits of higher education thanks to the vision of people who cared about the futures of their families and their communities, of people who established and expanded the college, and of people who remember how important access to affordable, quality education is today.

I hope you will join the NCTC EX's in envisioning and supporting a North Central Texas College that is prepared to meet the needs of students of this and succeeding generations.

## Lion's Pride

Many businesses in the NCTC service area offer a discount or other benefit to

students and alumni.

A current NCTC Ex-Students Association card can be used at any of the merchants displaying the Lion's Pride decal in their front window or door.

For a complete list of businesses, visit [www.nctc.edu](http://www.nctc.edu) and click on the Merchant Discount link. If you own a business and would like to participate in this program, call 940.668.4213.

To join the Ex-Students Association, see Page 4 for a complete application.



**North Central Texas College  
Student Government Association  
& Ex-Students**

## Where are they now?

### 1950s

Gloria (Day) Parrish is enjoying retirement from the duties of Cooke County Auditor.

### 1960s

Doug Lillard is an NCTC adjunct faculty member in the Computer Science program when he isn't on the golf course.

Artist Wes Miller owns and operates Farmers & Merchants' Art Gallery in Pilot Point.

Donna (Howell) Sickles is a successful artist and has a gallery in Saint Jo.

### 1970s

Crystal Wright, NCTC Social Science Department Associate Chair, is completing her doctoral dissertation at TCU.

Andy Klement is a Science Lab instructor at NCTC.

### 1980s

NCTC alum Lisa Bellows, NCTC Science Department Chair, is enrolled in the doctoral program at TCU.

### 1990s

Tracy Henry teaches at Lee Middle School in Gainesville.

Doris Floyd, Department Assistant in the Science Department, completed her bachelor of science degree in sociology from TWU.

Sara Flusche is working on her master's degree in Science at UTDallas.

Clay Corbett currently is Sports Director for KGAF Radio after a stint teaching and coaching at Slidell ISD.

### 2000s

Kelly Pulte, former NCTC student, graduated from Texas A&M in 2005 with a bachelor's degree in bio-medical science and now is attending pharmacy school at the University of Houston.

Jaime Floyd Noles, a 2002 graduate of NCTC (Associate of Science), completed a Bachelor of Science degree in 2004 with a major in biology and a minor in education. She teaches Chemistry and Biology and sponsors UIL science at Aubrey High School.

*When you have items for this section of the Hilltop News, contact Patsy Wilson ([pwilson@nctc.edu](mailto:pwilson@nctc.edu)) or Keith King ([Keith.King@TheWeeklyNewsCC.com](mailto:Keith.King@TheWeeklyNewsCC.com)).*

## Did you know that NCTC EX's...

Answers to last issue's "Did you know" follow.

- International diplomat - Margaret Parx Hays
- Professional basketball player - Dennis Rodman
- Professional actor - Peter Weller
- Professional musician - Louis Charles Stevenson (aka B. W. Stevenson)
- Member of US Joint Chiefs of Staff - General Lew Allen
- Doctor - Dr. Fay Hemphill
- Nurse - Ann Bauer
- Professional writer - Donna Fielder
- Professional artist - Marrita McMillian
- Career Military Officer - Major Douglas Roberts
- Banker - Robert Boone
- Business Owner - Johnny Leftwich
- City Official - Kay Lunnun
- Teacher - Larry Schumacher
- School Administrator - Eddie Frank Morris

## EX's seek nominees for distinguished awards

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recognize individuals and organizations for their meritorious service to the College and/or the community. Last year, Betty Henderson of Callisburg was named the recipient of the NCTC Individual Community Service Award. The Cooke County Master Gardeners were given the Community Service Award for their service to the college and to the county.

Past recipients include Ben Pinnell, the Bowie 4B Sales Tax Corporation, Walter "Wally" D. Cullum, Denise Pearse, Gainesville Memorial Hospital, Denton Regional Medical Center, Denton Community Hospital, Medical Center of Lewisville and Bowie Memorial Hospital.

The Association recognizes the importance that volunteers have played in the success of the College and the community. This award is open to anyone who has devoted their time and resources to having a positive impact on the community and/or college.

Nominations for both of these awards are due **March 16** in NCTC Ex-Students Association Office. The nomination form is available at [www.nctc.edu](http://www.nctc.edu) or you can call the Ex-Students Association Office at 940-668-4213.

Award recipients will be recognized at the NCTC Foundation Starlite Gala on April 14, 2007 at the Sundown Ranch in Sanger. If you would like to attend the Starlite Gala, please contact the Foundation Office at (940) 668-4213.

## Keep the Ex-perience Alive

**Feb. 14** – Adopted Dorm Valentines Delights 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Student Activities Center. Ex-Students Association members are asked to bring desserts and valentine goodies to share with dorm students following their noon meal.

**March 27** – Adopted Dorm Hot Dog Cookout & Games, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. – between the 100 and 300 building Gainesville campus. Ex-Student Association members are asked to bring desserts.

**April 27** – NCTC EX's Luncheon 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Library Lyceum. All former students and friends are invited to attend. Please RSVP to 940.668.4213.

**May 3** – Good Luck on Your Finals Goody Bags for all Dorm Students. Bag Stuffing at 4 p.m. in the Board Room. Ex-Students Association members are asked to bring 125 items to include in the students' bags.

**July 13** – NCTC EX's Luncheon 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Library Lyceum. All former students and friends are invited to attend. Please RSVP to 940.668.4213. At this luncheon, special recognition will be extended to members from the classes of 1940s, 50s and 60s. If you were a student during these years, please call 940.668.4213 and let us know – we want to invite you formally to this event.



**Pancake Supper** – Lots of pancakes were flipped and the syrup poured as the NCTC EX's hosted a pancake supper for the dorm students on the Gainesville campus to help prepare them for finals week. NCTC students enjoyed the meal and received good luck bags to help them prepare for their final exams.

## Scholars thank donors at annual breakfast

*'Education is a Magical Experience' is the theme*

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president of the NCTC Foundation board. "We are so grateful to all our donors and to all of these students for giving this college a chance to be a part of their dreams for the future."

According to Debbie Sharp, vice president of advancement and director of the NCTC Foundation, the annual Foundation-sponsored breakfast enables individuals, businesses, organizations and others who have contributed money for scholarships to actually meet and get to know the students who benefit from the assistance.

A highlight of the breakfast was recognition of several new endowed scholarships that were established during the past year. Heading the list

is a fund made possible by a gift to the college from the NCTC Student Government Association (SGA).

Other new endowed scholarships included the General Lew and Barbara Allen Scholarship, the Lois Boaz Scholarship, the Freddie Robeson Equine Scholarship, the Charles W. and Miriam Hogan Scholarship and the Shay Ledbetter Scholarship.

Sharp recognized the family of Leo and Mabel Scott, whose recent bequest to the college generated an additional \$75,000 of scholarship resources to the Foundation.

Anyone wanting to learn more about NCTC Foundation and opportunities for establishing scholarship funds should contact Debbie Sharp at 940-668-4213 or e-mail at [dsharp@nctc.edu](mailto:dsharp@nctc.edu).



# JOIN TODAY!

## Membership Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Enrolled under different or maiden name? If yes, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street / P.O. Box

City

State

Zip Code

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Please  the appropriate box:

- Former NCTC Student
- NCTC Graduate
- Former NCTC Employee
- Current NCTC Employee
- NCTC Friend or Supporter

Dates Attended /  
Employed: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please clip form and return with  
\$10 (1-year) or \$50 (5-year) membership fee to:

**NCTC Ex-Students Association**  
**1525 W. California St.**  
**Gainesville, Texas 76240**

**NCTC Ex-Students Association  
Scholarship Fund**

Yes, I would like to make a donation.  
Enclosed please find \$\_\_\_\_\_ as my  
donation for this scholarship

No, but please send me more information.

Please make check payable to NCTC Ex-Students Association.  
For more information please call (940) 668-4213 or go online:  
[www.nctc.edu](http://www.nctc.edu) , Click Alumni & Friends.

North Central Texas College  
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