

# REFLECTIONS

WINTER 2018

NEWSLETTER: HAPPENINGS, ALUMNI NEWS AND EVENTS



L-R: Principal, Ann L. Schultz ('84), Jim Bender and Music Department Head, Marlys Neufeldt.

## SHARING THE GIFT OF MUSIC

Jim Bender (above centre) has a love for music and musical instruments. He describes himself as a 'Suzuki Parent'; part of his love grew out of accompanying his daughters, Jill and Annie (Class of 2003 and 2006 respectively) to music lessons. Over the years, he learned to play several instruments and also began to collect them.

He jokes that he has, 'Instrument Acquisition Disorder'. Despite donating instruments to numerous communities and sourcing good quality new instruments at a reasonable price for friends and contacts, the collection continued to grow, eventually taking over their basement.

When it came time to reclaim their basement, Jim immediately thought of Rockway. Along with his daughters, his older brother, Richard, is an alumnus (Class of 1957). Jim remembers driving to the end of the road for his brother to catch the bus to Rockway. As a past-Rockway parent, Jim is also aware of Rockway's rich music history. Both of his daughters are musicians while pursuing careers in law and broadcasting.

Jim donated 15 new violins plus another 12 bows and accessories to Rockway's music program as part of our Lead Us Onward campaign. Thanks to the recent refurbishment of the music portables, we have the perfect spot for them, although they won't be on the shelf long; students are already using them. This is music to our ears!

HAPPY NEW YEAR

## What's Inside?

- Exchanging Gifts: PAGE 2
- Give to Rockway, *Because...*: PAGE 3
- Connections Homecoming Weekend: PAGE 4-5
- Students Learning in Community: PAGE 6
- See You Soon!: BACK PAGE

**Rockway**  
MENNONITE COLLEGIATE



## EXCHANGING THE GIFTS OF PEACE, EDUCATION AND FRIENDSHIP



When empathy and compassion are couched in confidence and nurtured through experience, students grow and shape the world in God's image. As Principal at Rockway Mennonite Collegiate, I have the opportunity to travel to Asia every number of years in support of our International Student program, which hosts over sixty students.

This past October, Rockway Director of Admissions and Recruitment, David Lobe ('96), and I met with recruitment representatives and parents of current and future students, and connected with the English teachers and Administrators of Xindu No. 1 Middle School, the Experimental School attached to Xindu No. 1 Middle School and Xiangcheng Middle School. You can see from the above photo the joy we had meeting students!

Other trip highlights included spending time with Rockway Alumna, Jenny Chan (Class of 2015), who is presently studying at university, and joining current Rockway parents for dinner. We shared thoughtful conversations about their children and listened to the stories of what led them to Rockway.

The most powerful moment of the trip, however, was re-connecting with Principal Zhang at the Xiangcheng Middle School. He was one of five Chinese administrators who visited Rockway in November 2015, to celebrate the over 20 year partnership between Rockway and Xindu No. 1 Middle School that was established under the leadership of past-Principal, Bert Lobe.

As part of a gift exchange, Principal Zhang presented me with a beautiful photo book, commemorating the Chinese Delegation visit in 2015. I was not fully aware of the impact their time with us had on them until I opened up the book. Inside there were quotes celebrating friendship and fortitude in education, alongside photos of the moments they had shared with us. In addition to this powerful gift exchange, David and I were honoured at a formal Chinese feast, where toasts and words were exchanged and I was reunited with the other members of the Chinese Delegation. Together, we celebrated our friendship and partnership!

Travelling to Asia left me with tangible and profound moments which connect me more deeply with Rockway's mission, a mission that "broadens, enriches and challenges students' learning and world-view."

***Wishing you all a season of joy and peace as you celebrate the birth of the Christ Child!***

*Ann L. Schultz*

Ann L. Schultz ('84), Principal

## SUPPORT BRIGHT FUTURES



Like any independent school, Rockway relies on the hearts and hands of many partners to fulfill the promise of our mission to students and families. Board Chair, John Torrance-Perks, shares why his family volunteers and gives, and invites you to join him:

*I volunteer and support Rockway **Because...***

- ✓ we (Julie and I) believe in Rockway's unique mission and values for our children, Jamie and James
- ✓ we want to give back to our community
- ✓ we understand that Rockway needs our support, and we see how volunteering contributes to the community of Rockway

Our daughter, Jamie, Class of 2016, is one of Rockway's 4,000 Alumni. I've watched her grow from a shy girl into a confident young woman in high school, who is now in her third year of university. Our son, James, will soon graduate and also become a Rockway Alumnus. I will always remember watching him play for the Rockway Senior Boys Volleyball team against the Alumni team at the Alumni Sports Challenge during Connections Weekend. I could barely hear myself cheer amidst the energy in the room! I will be cheering him on in the upcoming basketball season. Go Flames!

**For 73 years, Rockway has been here for students and families, offering a unique high school education rooted in values, compassion, reflection, and a global community. I believe it is something worth supporting.**

As an independent high school in Ontario, Rockway relies entirely on tuition fees, some rental income and fundraising. Tuition fees cover approximately 85% of our annual operating budget. Rental income alone cannot make up the remaining gap. Nor can it fund desperately needed facility maintenance and upgrades. **You can help.**

In 2016, we launched Lead Us Onward, a comprehensive 4 year, \$3 million campaign to build bright futures (see more at [rockway.ca](http://rockway.ca)). This year, the campaign includes fundraising goals of \$440,000 for daily operations and tuition assistance, and another \$300,000 for facility improvements (remember, we continue to have a matching pledge of up to \$125,000/year for the revitalization of school facilities, in effect doubling the power of your donation!).

**Rockway's most recent Annual Report (available at [rockway.ca](http://rockway.ca)) shows the difference you are making in students' lives, but we have much work left to do, from new roofs to ensuring adequate tuition assistance support.**

**This Christmas, join me.** If you haven't already done so, consider including Rockway in your end of year giving.

# Because...



Your donation, received anytime of the year, makes a difference for Rockway students. If you would like a **2018 charitable receipt** for your donation, you can:

### DONATE ONLINE

[rockway.ca](http://rockway.ca)

### CALL US

519-743-5209

### STOP BY

during school/office hours

### MAIL YOUR GIFT

it must be postmarked no later than December 31, 2018.

*Thank You!*



Some members of the Class of 1953, with some of their partners, met for a 65th Anniversary Reunion Lunch, left to right – Carol (Snider) Bauman, Melvin Bauman, Joy (Snider) Witmer, Keith Witmer, Margaret Jutzi, Betty Lou (Eby) Robbins, Verda (Buehler) Cook, Sydney Cook, Audrey (Shantz) May, Delphine (Martin) Wideman, Vera (Wisner) Snider, Vera's son Tony Snider is standing directly behind her, and lastly, John Snider.



## CONNECTIONS WEEKEND 2018

### WELCOMED HUNDREDS HOME TO ROCKWAY

Saturday started with the **Retired and Former Faculty and Staff Breakfast**. About thirty-five guests, including recent retirees, enjoyed fellowship over breakfast. Thanks to all guests and Banquet Committee volunteers for making it a very special start to the day.

A packed gym saw a friendly start to the **Alumni Volleyball Sports Challenge** as Alumnae and Rockway girls came together to play the first game. Afterward, men's Alumni team, including some of the 1995 OFSAA champions (pictured below), bested the Senior Boys team in a spirited match.

Parents and community contributors made for a great **Community Silent Auction**. The Silent Auction and BIG Night Out mini Live Auction raised over \$7,000 net for the Go Rockway! Annual Fund. Thanks to the many Auction donors and volunteers.

A record crowd of almost 400 for the **Spaghetti Supper** raised over \$3,000 net towards the Gr. 10 Quebec Trip. Thank you for joining us for supper. And thank you to the students, faculty, staff and volunteers who hosted such a tasty start to Connections Weekend.



— MARK YOUR CALENDAR —

CONNECTIONS WEEKEND 2019 — Friday, October 25 & Saturday, October 26

# ROCKWAY BIG NIGHT OUT

## BIG FUN WITH MENNO VALLEY SOUND AND TWAS NOW & FRIENDS

A full house enjoyed dinner and some terrific musical entertainment. Guests raised over \$14,000 net for the Go Rockway! Annual Fund, supporting daily education and tuition assistance.

Special thanks to our event sponsors, musicians and volunteers, especially Banquet Committee volunteers and staff, without whom we could not have hosted such a fabulous evening. Watch for a Dinner and Dance on Saturday, October 26, 2019.

Josslin Insurance  
a Real Insurance broker



RBJ Schlegel  
HOLDINGS INC.

KINDRED  
Credit Union



ST. JACOBS  
PRINTER  
LTD.



# ROCKWAY ALUMNI



## ORDER YOUR 2018 ROCKWAY ALUMNI BABY-T

Alumnae and sisters, Adrienne and Heather Schellenberg (Class of 2006 and 2004) hope to carry on the family tradition and see their sons graduate from Rockway. If you are Alumni who welcomed a baby in 2018, please let us know by emailing: [andrewm@rockway.ca](mailto:andrewm@rockway.ca) by January 31, 2019, and we will be sure to send you your complimentary Alumni Baby T.

FOR THE LOVE  
OF ROCKWAY

1945

FOUNDERS' DAY CHAPEL  
Thursday, February 14, 2019

## PLAN TO JOIN US.

Alumni are invited to join us for a special **Founders' Day Chapel** 'for the love of Rockway' on Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:20 am at Rockway. **Please RSVP to [andrewm@rockway.ca](mailto:andrewm@rockway.ca) or 519-743-5209 x.3601 by January 31, 2019.**

Also, plan to join in **Rockway's Founders' Day 24hr online Giveathon**, Friday, February, 15, 2019.



Congratulations! 2018 CWOSSA 'B' Junior Girls Basketball champions.

## VOLUNTEERS GO BEYOND FOR ROCKWAY'S STUDENTS LEARNING IN COMMUNITY (SLIC)



Our journey at Rockway focuses on students developing an ability to lead with compassion when classroom learning is extended so they can live Christ-centred values, develop empathy and perspective, and serve the community, locally and globally. This is the inspiration behind Rockway's new Students Learning In Community (SLIC) partnerships.

Volunteers travel with students to partner organizations and participate in programming alongside students for a morning or afternoon. Currently, there are a number of partnerships supported by a team of volunteers (KW Habilitation, The Working Centre—Recycle Cycles and St. John's Kitchen, and the Strong Start Reading Program). Volunteers who support Design & Technology students at Recycle Cycles are self-proclaimed 'gear-heads'. They have found it very satisfying to help students learn some new skills while refurbishing bicycles for our community members.



This past spring, Rockway parent, Kevin Bradshaw, travelled weekly with Gr. 8 Science students to KW Habilitation, where they assisted with their Our Farm program. Currently, Kevin is going with Business Leadership students on weekly visits to St. John's Kitchen, where they assist with meal clean-up and talk with the program manager about operations. *"I can see the impact that the work is having on students and on our community,"* reports Kevin.

In keeping with our 'Going Beyond' strategic plan, SLIC partnerships will touch students at all grade levels this year. This is only possible with the generous support of caring volunteers and the collaboration of community partners.



## SAYING THANK YOU AND GOOD BYE WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS

Our people are one of Rockway's greatest resources. For many years, custodian, Neil van Leeuwen, has been one of our quiet heroes, working diligently behind the scenes to keep Rockway safe and spic and span, but always taking time to speak with students and guests. In addition to formal Faculty/Staff farewells, Neil enjoyed the appreciation of students as he embarked on his retirement.

At the same time, we bid 'Happy Retirement' to Jackie Fackoury, who welcomed you to the Office and knew and cared for every Rockway student. Decked out in our best red and white Canada duds, the school line-danced with Jackie and joined her in a rousing rendition of John Denver's "Take Me Home, Country Roads". Enjoy the journey, Jackie!

Watch for more retirement news. In the interim, please join us in welcoming Fiona Mackay to our Office and Ashley Cizman to our custodial crew.



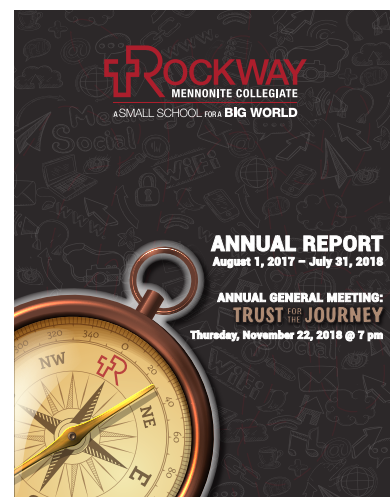
### Rockway's Mission

As a Christian educational community within the Anabaptist Mennonite tradition, Rockway Mennonite Collegiate integrates sound academic learning with growth in character and faith, together with a passion for peace-making and service to God and all creation.



### #RockwayBeyond





Rockway's **2017-2018 Annual Report**, with financial statements, and new **strategic plan, *Going Beyond***, are available to view online at [rockway.ca/about](http://rockway.ca/about) or call 519-743-5209 x.3011 for your copies.




# SEE YOU SOON! Upcoming Events

**GEORGE ORWELL'S**  
**1984**  
FEBRUARY 27 to MARCH 1, 2019 | 7:30 pm

tickets \$14 | available online or at the door | general admission  
adult themes | visit [rockway.ca](http://rockway.ca) for more information


     
rockway.ca

  
Charitable # 119122091RR0001



*Mark your calendars and join us for:*

**ROCKWAY MENNONITE COLLEGIATE'S**  
**GOLF CLASSIC**  
Wednesday, May 29, 2019  
Proceeds support Student Tuition Assistance



**SAVE THE DATE!**

Grade 7 & 8 Play  
**MAY 2 & 3, 2019**

Spring Concert  
**MAY 14, 2019**

The Ultimate Rockway Picnic  
**JUNE 8, 2019**

*Stay tuned to  
[rockway.ca](http://rockway.ca) for  
more information  
about these  
events!*

## Contact Us

For more information about our school and mission:

### Rockway Mennonite Collegiate

110 Doon Road  
Kitchener, Ontario N2G 3C8

T: 519-743-5209

F: 519-743-5935

[advancement@rockway.ca](mailto:advancement@rockway.ca)

[www.rockway.ca](http://www.rockway.ca)

Principal: Ann L. Schultz

Charitable Number: 119122091RR0001



#lifeatRockway

Reflections is a publication of Rockway Mennonite Collegiate. If you prefer to receive your copy by email please let us know at [advancement@rockway.ca](mailto:advancement@rockway.ca) or 519-342-0007 x3011. Thank you.