



Notes from the president—Dr. Duane Dunn

We had another great year at Seward County Community College/Area Technical School in 2009 with a lot of different activities, accomplishments, initiatives, and challenges. Throughout this issue of Connections, you'll note several of the various activities that have occurred and learn about your former classmates and friends.

One of the top events that has made the most impact on SCCC/ATS is the merger of Southwest Kansas Technical School under the operations of SCCC. To insure that people are aware of the continued opportunities for industrial and other career programs that were operated by SWKTS, we have imbedded "Area Technical School" into the name of Seward County Community College. Although it is a long name, it's important that

everyone knows of the expanded opportunities for education that are available.

The other top issue has been the economic downturn and the impact on SCCC/ATS. Certainly we have realized a reduction in state aid appropriations as a result of the economy, but we're also realizing a reduction in investment revenue with our Development Foundation. That loss is creating a challenge for available scholarships for students. I encourage you to contribute to the Development Foundation in order to assure adequate scholarship funds are provided to students who are reaching their goals just as our alumni have achieved.

The achievements our students and staff make, even during challenging times, is impressive. Our athletic teams consistently

reach the top of their games, our academic accomplishments are evident in the transfer and employment success of our students, and our faculty continue to provide a challenging and rewarding atmosphere of learning. The end results are improving the life of the individual student, which is exactly our mission.



Foundation asks for alumni support

Were you a Seward County Community College graduate who benefited from scholarship assistance while you attended college? If you are, the SCCC Development Foundation is asking for your support for student scholarships.



Gary Dunnam, owner, and Jared Dunnam, managing partner, of Windtree Management and Leasing, recently presented a \$20,000 contribution to the SCCC Development Foundation. The funds will be used for student scholarships. Accepting the donation is Duane Bozarth, SCCC Development Foundation president and Tammy Doll, SCCC/ATS director of development.

The foundation remains strong with almost \$3,500,000 in total assets and no liabilities as of year-end 2008. However, with almost 100 percent of these assets being invested, the decline in the markets has had an adverse impact on the cash flow generated from these investments, said Tina Call foundation trustee. Income generated from these core investment funds, along with monies derived from fund raising, are the source for scholarships, which are granted every semester.

Until there is a rebound in the market, cash flow generated from these investment funds will be limited and the foundation must place a greater reliance upon fund-raising efforts to continue with the historical level of scholarships. Tammy Doll, SCCC/ATS director of development, reported that the foundation awarded 723 scholarships totaling \$624,572 last year.

To continue this level of giving in 2009, "the Foundation is dedicated to increasing fund-raising efforts to be able to provide crucial scholarships to SCCC/ATS students,"

Call said.

"With the economic downturn, we are asking everyone that contributes this year to consider giving their gifts on an 'undesignated' basis," said Al Shank, foundation treasurer. "For instance, there are two scholarships that are in honor of my parents and my sister that I typically designate my contribution to go to every year. That means my contribution can only be used towards those scholarships. This year, however, I will be giving my money on an undesignated basis.

"This means the Foundation will be able to use it for scholarships in the greatest area of immediate need," he said. "As soon as the economic conditions improve then I once again will donate to the "designated" scholarships. Right now I want the Foundation to have flexibility for scholarships."

Donate online at www.sccc.edu and click the "Ways to Give" button. Call 620-417-1131 or email tammy.doll@sccc.edu.

ALUMNI NEWS

1970s

Carolyn (Sears) Morton ('71) works as vice president at the Greensburg State Bank which has moved into a new building after the terrible tornado of May 2007. She is in the process of helping her mother, brother, and the Greensburg community rebuild their lives and the homes they lost in the tornado.

Robert Blain ('72) has retired from the U.S. Postal Service where he worked for 38 years. His wife Rae, currently owns and operates The Last Tangle beauty salon. Robert and Rae have a son Ron, and a daughter Kerri, who is an SCCC graduate and works as a registered nurse in Wichita.

Jerry Ford ('74) is retired from J.M. Huber Corp. in Borger, Texas where he worked as a plant manager until 1998. He now lives in Kingston, Oklahoma on Lake Texhoma.

Lester Sizemore ('74) is an IT consultant and enterprise architect for Edgewater Technology in High Point, North Carolina. His work as a consultant to business managers leads him to extensive travel including a six-month project in London, England in 2007.

Royce Gilbert ('75) and his wife, Deanna, live in Alma, KS. Royce works as a special assistant at Kansas State University in Manhattan, KS.

Rita (Stevens) Thomas ('76) is currently employed at Oxy USA in Liberal. She has two children, Nick, who is an SCCC graduate, and Shaley, who is currently attending SCCC/ATS. Rita currently resides in Tyrone, Oklahoma.

1980s

Dale Cummings ('80) has served as pastor of the First Pentecostal Church in Trinidad, Colorado for 13 years and recently started a new church in St. Joe, Missouri.

Joe Aragon ('81) lives in El Paso, TX where he is self-employed as a State Farm Insurance agent.

Sylvester "Junie" Sivils ('81) lives in Louisville, KY where he owns a limousine service. As a kidney transplant recipient, Junie plays in the U.S. Transplant Olympic games.

Joe Clay ('82) and his wife, Charlene, live in Victorville, CA where Joe works as a recreation specialist.

Rena (Mullins) Hines ('82) is the director of the Meridian Technology Center in Still-

water, OK. Rena and her husband, Grant, have one son.

Gerry Zimmerman ('82) is self-employed as a certified natural wellness and weight loss coach. Gerry and his wife, Aggie, live in St. Petersburg, FL.

April (Springer) Buckman ('84) lives in Garnett, Kansas where she has worked as a medical laboratory technician at the Anderson County Hospital for the last 24 years.

Lisa Biddle Halsey ('85) is highly involved with youth softball as well as volleyball in Olathe, KS, where she lives with her husband Ross, and their three children: Jessica, Jordan and Joshua. Lisa works as director of operations services for Panhandle Eastern Pipeline Company.

Cheryl Jackson-Newsom ('85) is currently a park manager in Indianapolis, Indiana. She has also been coaching high school basketball and AAU basketball travel teams. After finishing her basketball playing days at SCCC, she moved on to Kansas State University and then to the University of Kansas where she was a part of the Big 8 Champion Jayhawks that made it to the Sweet 16 in the NCAA Tournament. Cheryl and her husband, Darryl, have two children.

Dr. Lorenda Naylor ('87) is an assistant professor at the University of Baltimore. She lives in Bel Air, Maryland with her husband, Raymond Kohler.

Toni (Akins) Martin ('88) and her husband, John, are the owners of John's Electronic Repair shop in Emporia. Toni is a board member of the Statewide Assistive Technology for Kansas and is a peer specialist at RCIL. She would like to thank everyone at SCCC who helped, supported, and accommodated her with her wheelchair while she was a student.

Eric Sauer ('89) works as a highway patrolman in Topeka, KS.

1990s

Jason Craig ('90) lives in Columbia, SC. He is the assistant director of the Learning Center for Sustainable Futures at the University of South Carolina.

Christi (Trahern) Hale ('90) is the director of counseling at Oklahoma Panhandle State University. Christi and her husband, David, live in Guymon, OK and have a daughter, Jordan, and a son, Seth.

April (Frankum) Garcia ('92) and her hus-

band, Oscar, live in Carrollton, TX where April is self-employed as a certified public accountant.

Richard Vorhies ('93) and his wife, Suzanne, live in Topeka, KS where Richard works as a nurse for Stormont Vail Health Care.

Tyler Curtis ('98) is the principal of Bert Nash School at the Atchinson Juvenile Detention Center. Tyler and his wife Melanie (Ervin) live in Atchinson, KS with their daughter, Allie.

Heather Hays ('99) lives in Kanorado, KS. She is co-owner of The Feed Bunk in Burlington, CO.

Shane Miller ('99) currently lives in Fredericksburg, VA with his wife, Jacquelyn, and daughters Annalee, Shelby, and Avery. Shane works as a personal trainer at American Family Fitness.

2000s

Abby Bolton ('03) returned to SCCC/ATS in 2008 as an assistant softball coach and Spanish instructor after spending one year at Dodge City C.C. as an assistant coach.

Travess Funk ('03) works as clinical coordinator and instructor in the surgical technology program at SCCC/ATS. Travess and his wife, Mary, live in Garden City, KS.

Greg Witkowski ('04) works as an operations manager for Ceva Logistics in Villa Rica, Georgia.

Tyler Westerman ('06) and his wife, Kassi (King) ('05), live in Snyder, TX. Tyler works as a process engineer for Kinder Morgan CO2.

Sean Clark ('06) works as a supervisor at an 800-bed hospital in Fort Worth, TX. He and his wife Audra, who just graduated from nursing school, and their two children, Mia and Morgan, are currently living in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area.

Olga Cisneros ('07) works as an assistant interpreter at Sharp McQueen Law Office in Liberal.

Contacts

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Alumni Office—620-417-1130
Registrar—620-417-1061
Business Office—620-417-1081
Toll-free: 1-800-373-9951

SAINTS ATHLETICS NEWS

Volleyball

The 2008 season for the Lady Saints was one of the best with a 10-2 conference record and second in the Jayhawk West. The team's 35 regular season wins was sixth among NJCAA division one schools.

- * Head Coach Bert Lualen won his 100th game at SCCC/ATS and 300th overall.
- * Sophomore Jelena Simic surpassed the college's all-time Kill Record with 1,374, shattering the previous high of 1,083. She was Jayhawk West Most Valuable Player, led the nation in total kills with 660 and was named NJCAA All-American.
- * LaKendra Sanders, Lindsey Miller, Chelsea Myers, and Amanda Savage were all named to the 2nd Team All-Jayhawk and Region VI squads. Sanders had 178 blocks, good for 6th in the country and 2nd in the Jayhawk West; she also finished second on the team behind Simic with 367 kills.

Men's Basketball

The Saints Basketball Team started the year on fire averaging over 100 points a game in their first eight contests. They took a 13-1 record and a #15 national ranking to semester break as they set their sight on another Jayhawk West Championship. The Saints ended their season at 23-9.

- * Freshman Tony Smith averaged 14 points and 6 assists a game garnering him Honorable Mention All-Conference and Honorable Mention All-Region.
- * Thijin Moses had 66 3-pointers and averaged 13 points and 5 rebounds a game to pick up 2nd Team All-Conference and Honorable Mention All-Region VI.
- * Marcus James averaged over 12 points and 5 rebounds a game which earned him Honorable Mention All-Conference and All-Region picks.

Women's Basketball

The Lady Saints Basketball Team started the season ranked 17th in the country and quickly moved up to 14th after a 7-1 start. The Lady Saints ended their season at 28-6 overall as they finished second in both the Jayhawk West and the Region VI Tournament.

- * Megan Lassley, Rachel Barnes, and Amanda Pierson were named to the Region VI All-Tournament Team. Barnes and Pierson were named both All-Conference and All-Region VI as well as being named KJCCC Player of the Week throughout the year. Barnes was named 1st Team All-Conference and 1st Team All-Region VI and was tabbed Jayhawk West Player of the Week twice on the season. Pierson was named 2nd Team All-Conference and Honorable Mention All-Region as well as being named the NJCAA Player of the

Week once and the KJCCC Player of the Week once.

- * Coach Toby Wynn became the fastest ever SCCC/ATS Basketball coach to reach 100 wins.

Baseball

The Saints Baseball Team finished the season 37-22 and fell just one game short of the NJCAA World Series.

- * Bobby Doran picked up 1st Team All-Conference and Honorable Mention All-Region accolades after going 10-3 with a 2.58 ERA.
- * Mikel Huston earned 1st Team All-Conference and 1st Team All-Region honors by hitting .417 in 2009.
- * Travis Parker had an outstanding year for the Saints hitting .371 with 9 home runs and 54 RBI's as well as setting a new school record for saves in just one season with 12 while chalking up a team best 1.85 ERA on the mound. His performance for the Saints earned him 1st Team All-Conference and 1st Team All-Region recognition.
- * Corey Collins and Luke Campbell were Honorable Mention All-Conference.

Softball

The 2009 Seward County Lady Saints Softball season was quite simply the best in school history. Making their first trip to the NJCAA National Tournament and finishing seventh at the event, this Lady Saints team will forever go down in SCCC/ATS history as the team that set the bar.

The Lady Saints started the season ranked 29th in the nation, the first time in program history that SCCC/ATS found themselves in

the NJCAA poll.

The Lady Saints won their last 8 games including a double header sweep over 17th ranked Butler to capture the Jayhawk West Conference Championship and gain the #1 seed for the Region VI Tournament.

- * Pitcher Courtney Auger was named Jayhawk West Conference MVP, 2nd Team All-American, and 1st Team All-Region.
- * Head Coach Andrea Gustafson was tabbed Jayhawk Coach of the Year for the third time in her career.
- * Shortstop Alicia Reyes, catcher Marisa Coats, and outfielders Katie Glenn and Brittany Kent were all named 1st Team All-Conference and 1st Team All-Region for their performances on the diamond.

Women's Tennis

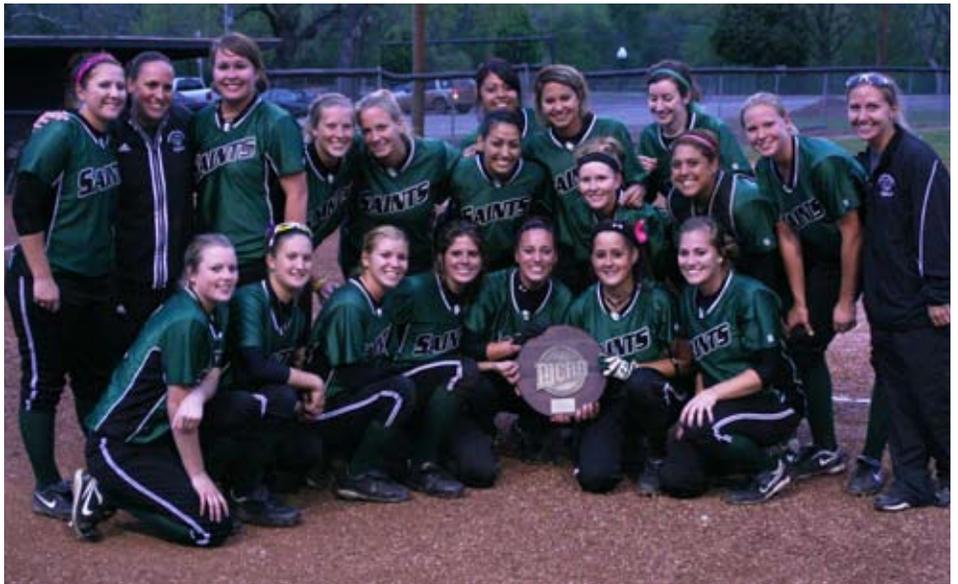
The Lady Saints Tennis Team qualified for the NJCAA National Tournament for the fourth straight year this season. They finished that tournament 21st and ended the season ranked 12th by the ITA/NJCAA.

Seward went 41-24 in the fall season winning 24 of 40 singles matches including an impressive 8-2 mark from Valerie Stevens. An 11-8 doubles mark was led by Stevens/Lowery and Boas/Larson who racked up 4 wins each.

Men's Tennis

The NJCAA named the Men's Tennis Team the NJCAA National Academic Champions by compiling a 3.39 team GPA, the highest of any team in the nation. The Saints won this award in 2002 as well.

The Saints played better in their fall season than they did in the spring, racking up a 52-32 overall record.



The Lady Saints Softball Team made their first trip to the National Junior College Athletic Association National Tournament. They finished seventh in the nation.

Former student changes careers from musician to chocolatier



On Valentine's Day 2003, former SCCC student Bethany Thouin, class of 1992, was sitting across the table from her husband Jesse at a downtown restaurant in Franklin, Tennessee. Not so unusual for a loving couple on Valentine's Day you might think, but this was no ordinary Valentine's Day, this was a day that would change the rest of their lives.

The dinner date between the two sweethearts would start as most did; dinner, dessert, and a drink. But this date finished much different than most. A simple question from Bethany to Jesse; "is your life everything that you had hoped for?" After a moment to ponder the question the two began to chat about different ideas they had and dreams and aspirations they thought might come true. After what seemed like an eternity walking up and down the sidewalks of Franklin without a worry in the world, the two came up with the perfect idea: a chocolate shop right in the middle of downtown Franklin.

The Cocoa Tree was up and running just a block from where the dream began. The couple then moved their shop to Main Street where they lived upstairs with their four children. After having problems in the building they loved so much, they were forced to move the shop to another location but it "was never the same", and the couple closed the shop just over a year after the move. "I was devastated and emotionally exhausted," Thouin said. "I needed time away from it to heal, to learn, to breathe" she continued. During the downtime,

the couple had another beautiful child and Bethany was able to finish her book, *Chocolate Covered Friendship*, as well as meet her new business partner Jimmy Torino.

The Cocoa Tree opened once again on an even grander stage in the middle of Germantown in Nashville, Tennessee. "The Cocoa Tree was destined to be right where it is right now," Bethany said. "I loved downtown Franklin and I would not be where I am today without the loyal customers who supported me all those years," she said. "My favorite thing is when a customer comes in to the new location and says, 'I was a fan when you were in Franklin,'" she went on to say.

Bethany has created over 20 signature truffles which have been purchased or received by celebs such as Faith Hill, LeAnn Rimes, Nicole Kidman, Ashley Judd, Wolfgang Puck, and former President Bush. In 2004 she was named one of the Top 10 Rising Stars in America's Confectionery Constella-



tion and was presented with a medal in New York City. She has found herself mentioned in *Newsweek*, *Bon Appétit*, and *Home and Garden* magazines. In 2007 she assisted world-renowned Chef Stepane Glacier at the World Pastry Forum and also competed on the Food Network against three other competitors where she created a chocolate replica of the Statue of Liberty, which more than impressed the judges. One of her most memorable moments as a chocolatier came when she presented a haute couture chocolate dress in the 2007 New York City Chocolate Show and appeared on CBS' *The Early Show* with her daughter Jessie Lyric to show the world her creation.

"I learned a lot about how the real world works during my time at SCCC," Bethany said. "I look back on the relationships I built there and realize how much I learned about treating people with respect. I feel blessed that I was exposed to so many people who were passionate about what they did and who were willing to invest their time and energy into their student's lives."

Bethany is a native of Liberal and attended SCCC from 1989-1992 before moving on to Oklahoma Baptist University. She and her husband Jesse have five children: Jessie Lyric (12), Journey (8), Bridge (6), Story (4), and Manhattan (10 months).

How can she balance her time with 5 children and a growing business you may ask? "I have a rule—error on the side of family" she said. "I'm not going to forego my chance to be in the front row cheering for my kindergarten at his school program or not be the person to witness my three-year-old seeing a giraffe at the zoo for the first time. Those moments are too important. They become a memory that will last forever," she said.

When asked about her favorite memories of SCCC Bethany recalled the many long nights working on musicals and concerts and some of her favorite professors like Andy Yoxall, Frank Challis, Lee Courtney and Rodney Bell.

"I am so grateful to the community of Liberal, Kansas, and their love for 'the arts'. I truly believe that I am blessed to have grown up in Liberal. I think back to all of the opportunities that I had to grow as an artist from the time I was in grade school all the way through my time at SCCC. Rainbow Players. The Baker Arts Center. Redskin Singers, under the direction of Elaine Werner. The LHS theater department, under the direction of Gary Thompson. The Pancake Day talent show. The opportunities were practically endless.

"I truly miss the people that I came to know in Liberal. I miss knowing that no matter what errand I run, I will see a face that I know in the crowd. I loved that part of 'small town' life," she said.

"I have lots of very big hopes and dreams for The Cocoa Tree," Bethany said. "Ultimately I want to be the best I can be at whatever I am doing. I feel that God has gifted me uniquely for this season of my life—wherever this road leads. . . I just want to be faithful to my 'calling,'" she said.

Bethany and Jesse believe The Cocoa Tree is a vehicle for communicating their chocolate philosophy: "Chocolate is evidence that God delights in our pleasure."

To see some of Bethany's work or to order some of her world famous chocolates, visit her website at www.thecocoatree.com.

Four employees retire from SCCC/ATS



(2008-09) SCCC/ATS
(1982-03) USD 480

ED POLEY

Director, Area Technical School



(1993-09)

DIANE HEIERS

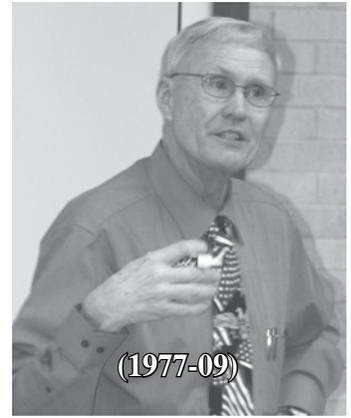
Secretary, Business Division



(1976-09)

FRANK CHALLIS

Instructor, Speech/drama



(1977-09)

LEE COURTNEY

Instructor, Social Science

Grant helps develop Natural Gas Compressor Technician program

Seward County Community College/Area Technical School recently received a grant from the Kansas Department of Commerce for use in developing the Natural Gas Compressor Technician Program.

The funds in the amount of \$90,000 are a part of the Workforce Solution Funds created by the Kansas Legislature in 2004. The grant money will be used to hire and train an instructor and renovate facilities on the area technical school site so the program can begin in fall 2010.

Susan Nickerson, regional director of the Kansas Works west region, was on campus to present the check. The Kansas Department of Commerce administers the Workforce Solutions Fund to help postsecondary workforce training institutions throughout the



Dr. Duane Dunn, SCCC/ATS president, signs the grant from the Kansas Department of Commerce to help develop a Natural Gas Compressor Technician Program. From left are Dale Reed, associate dean of educational services; Chuck Lamberson, Kansas Manager Stewart & Stevenson, Reenie Jackson, SCCC/ATS director of business & industry; and Susan Nickerson, regional director of the Kansas Works west region.

state respond more effectively to the workforce training needs of critical industries in Kansas. Funds are strategically invested into projects designed to enhance Kansas post-secondary institutions' training services and/or training capacity for the benefit of Kansas companies.

"We are excited about the great industry support we have for this program," said Dale Reed, associate dean of educational services. "The Petroleum Industry Education Committee is working closely with the college to help develop the program, hire an instructor and provide equipment for the program."

"The college has a long history of working with the natural gas industry through the Gas Compressor and Measurement & Pipeline institutes."

Reflections

OF THE PAST

Development Foundation

Party Auction, Saturday, Sept. 19

Seward County Event Center—Fairgrounds
Silent Auction—6 p.m. Food Served—6-8 p.m.
Live Auction—8:30 p.m.

This annual event raises money for scholarships.

For ticket information, to donate a new or hand-crafted item or service, or to make a cash donation, call 620-417-1130 or 1-800-373-9951.

Email: tammy.doll@sccc.edu

Help us celebrate our 40th anniversary—
grand re-opening of the original campus

11 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 2

6th and Washington, Liberal, Kansas
(SCCC/ATS Epworth Allied Health Education Center)

Tell us your story and help us celebrate
our 40th throughout the year.

We want to know how
SCCC, LAVTS or SWKTS
has impacted your life.

40 and forward 

Go to alumni.sccc.edu and
click on "Tell us your story."

Former students reconnect through social networks

Twenty years ago it was a lot harder for individuals to keep in touch once they left college. Today, with social networks, blogs and email, friends can more easily reconnect.

Juana Serrano, a 1986 Seward County Community College graduate, and Julie Comstock-Fisher who last attended in 1987 have not only reconnected but are keeping in touch on a daily basis.

Juana and Julie met at Liberal High School, but never really quite grew close until Julie started at SCCC, now SCCC/ATS. Writing classes and their close connection to instructors Andy Yoxall and Ann Judd were what brought them together.

"We have connected - lost touch - reconnected a couple of times over the last 15 years," said Juana. "Julie is the one who always finds me. . . and I have always been glad to be found. Facebook has been a great tool. . . and it has definitely made it so much easier to stay connected."

"We've emailed each other a couple of times over the years, but Facebook got us back in touch on a regular basis," Julie said. Until recently when Juana attended a conference in Kansas City, where Julie lives, they hadn't seen each other in person for over 20 years.

Serrano, who came to this country from El Salvador with her sister when her country was in turmoil, majored in Journalism at SCCC and was a part of *The Crusader* and *Telolith*. She was forced to return to El Salvador after graduation, but "love brought me back to the U.S. and it has been good to be back. It took a lot of work and perseverance to stay focused on my goals. I eventually got married and that gave me a path to citizenship, which was wonderful."

Although Julie did not graduate from SCCC she took classes in both Accounting and Journalism and was a part of *The Crusader*.

Juana said she loved courses she took under Lee Courtney, all her writing classes and literature classes and oil painting. "I think I had lost my voice through my writing, and a lot of that had to do with the insecurity I always felt about expressing myself with words. Though I had command of the English language, I felt (and sometimes still feel) self-conscious of how I sound and of my word choices.

"I have taken other social sciences courses in my academic life but never any as thought provoking and challenging as Courtney's courses," Juana said. "It was in one of his courses where I finally learned (and understood) how the American Government works. To me, this was such important knowledge, especially since I had lived in a war-torn country where elections used to be a sham.

"Andy Yoxall, Ann Judd and Steve Heckman were not only my instructors, but my friends. Not only did I learn from them academically and creatively, but also at a deep

spiritual level. I faced many challenges during that time, some of which could have been downright self-destructive. Their impact on my life has been momentous. I thank them for giving me hope for the rest of my life, which I now enjoy."

Julie also liked her newspaper classes and Ann Judd's novel class. Tommy Williams was a good accounting teacher.

"I got more help from Larry Kruse with financial aid than I'd ever gotten anywhere else," Julie said. "He was great at his job. I also really enjoyed working in the president's office.

"SCCC let me pick up a bunch of classes I needed for a very reasonable price when I was totally out of money to go to school. All but one of those hours transferred to Wichita State University, which was nice. They also employed me for a year or so, in a very nice work environment."

Juana almost earned a bachelor's in Mass Communications at Universidad Jose Matias Delgado, but she was anxious to come back to the States so she didn't finish. She then earned a bachelor's in Human Relations from Golden Gate University and then a Master's of Public Administration with an emphasis in Healthcare from the University of San Francisco. She has worked at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford for the last eight years in many capacities. Her current job is as a systems analyst in the information technology department.

Julie received a bachelor's degree from WSU in English and computer science with a minor in accounting. She now lives in Kansas City with her partner, Reba, and has two children. She works for GE as a program manager, providing collaboration tools and email

to companies they acquire, and help divesting companies learn the GE tools.

Juana is working on a business plan for a business that would work across borders (El Salvador/USA). Children do not have health coverage in El Salvador, so the basic premise is that of pre-paid health coverage.

"I do feel that our country's immigration policy needs to be revamped so that those individuals who are capable of being an asset to the country can stay and have a more structured and fair way to become a legal resident and eventually a citizen.

"Proposed legislation called the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act or DREAM Act would allow minors "of good moral character who arrive in the U.S. as children, and who have been in the US continuously for at least 5 years, the opportunity to earn conditional permanent residency. This temporary residency lasts for 6 years, and requires qualified students to attend college and earn a two-year degree or serve in the military. Those who do not comply would have the temporary residency taken away and be deported. There are many students who would not only benefit themselves and their families, but also the United States, by staying in the U.S. legally, going to school and becoming productive citizens."

"Perseverance has been the key to achieving my goals, so persevere in whatever it is that has inspired you; just be sure that your source of inspiration is also a source of good for others. A goal is only worth pursuing if it is a goal for the common good."

Juana encourages everyone to get involved in his or her community. "As volunteers we can make our country prosper and rise once again."



Julie Comstock-Fisher, left, and Juana Serrano reconnected recently through Facebook.

A busy spring at SCCC/ATS



SCCC/ATS Construction Trades Technology students Guy Watana and Cheryl Rickers, right, stand in front of the house they helped build as part of the City of Liberal Self Help Housing Program. At left are Gary Staiger, Construction Trades Technology instructor and Dr. Duane Dunn.



First-year Practical Nursing student Micaela Luck receives her cap from Nursing Instructor Nancy Bansemer, above, during a capping and pinning ceremony at SCCC/ATS. Second-year Nursing students received their pins.

Over 330 students, above right, graduated from SCCC/ATS this spring, including students from the technical programs that became a part of the college following the merger with Southwest Kansas Technical School.

Other spring items:

- * *Jett Eder of Sharon Springs received the outstanding student award and Cristy Mulanax, Criminal Justice instructor, received the outstanding faculty award.*
- * *The 2008 Telolith, the college's art and literary magazine, received the Certificate of Merit for multi-page design of a literary/art magazine for the two-page spread featuring a photograph by Doug Wehmeier and the story "Imaginary Line" by JoLynn Earnest and a second-place certificate in Typography for use of a designed or art headline.*
- * *SCCC/ATS and Fort Hays State University have developed a 2+2 agreement for students interested in elementary and early childhood education. Much of the work can be completed in southwest Kansas.*



Adam Froelich of Sublette, above, a student in the Drafting and Design Technology, won a gold medal in the written essay contest at the recent SkillsUSA contest. Froelich's essay followed the assigned theme of the SkillsUSA Creed and what it means to the individual. His essay scored a perfect score of 200 points.



At left, students and alumni perform during the spring concert in May that included vocal and instrumental music performances.

CLASS NOTES REPORT FORM

This form is for your convenience in sending news about yourself, your family or other alumni. Let us know of any changes in occupation, recent honors or degrees earned, marriages, births, memories of Seward County Community College and other news of interest. We want to hear from you. Please send us a photo of yourself if you have one. You may also log on to alumni.sccc.edu and submit your information.

Name _____ Maiden name _____ Year of graduation _____

Address _____ New address?

Spouse _____ Did your spouse graduate from SCCC/ATS? ____ Year _____

Phone _____ Email address _____ Present occupation/title _____

Colleges now attending _____

Children names/ages _____

Current activities/awards _____

Memories of SCCC/ATS _____

Mail form to Director of Development, Seward County Community College/Area Technical School, PO Box 1137, Liberal, KS 67905-1137

Attention parents: If you are receiving the SCCC/ATS Alumni News addressed to your son or daughter who no longer lives at this address, please use this form to notify us of his or her present address.



ALUMNI & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION
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**It's free and your opportunity
to reconnect with the
SCCC/ATS community and
your former classmates.**