

RHS ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Edition 1 - April, 2016

Welcome to the first ever edition of the RHS Alumni Newsletter!

The RHS Alumni Association was recently established by the Rockford Education Foundation and committee members from the All School Reunion. Our mission is to generate and maintain the active interest of all alumni as a support organization with pride in the heritage of our alma mater.

Please register or update your alumni information! [Register Here](#)

REUNIONS

Class of 1995 Reunion

Saturday, April 2nd, 2016 at 2pm

Delano Bowling Alley

Starts at 2:00pm and will go all day and night

Note: You no longer need to send in a check to participate in the reunion.

The previous plans were changed - Any checks sent in will be returned.

Class of 2006 Reunion

Saturday, August 13, 2016

Tentative Plans ([stay tuned](#))

Lunch at the Beachside Pavilion at Lake Rebecca

All School Reunion

Saturday, October 1, 2016

Bison Creek Event Center ([stay tuned](#))

Submit your reunion information to Kelly at kelly@rockfordfoundation.org

IN MEMORIAM

[Deborah Marie \(Skafte\) Allen](#) - Class of 1959 (Mar 14, 2016)

[Clarice Ann \(Srehler\) Schleif](#) - Class of 1979 (Feb 3, 2016)

[Bernadine M. "Bernie" Johnson Neumann](#) - Class of 1949 (Feb 1, 2016)
[Myra \(Graunke\) Wright](#) - Late 1950s (Jan 26, 2016)
[Donnie Mengelkoch](#) - Class of 1950 (Jan 7, 2016)
[Ronald Vollrath](#) - Class of 1957 (Jan 7, 2016)
[Dr. Allen Moen](#) - Superintendent of RAS for 26 years (Sept 12, 2015)
[Lula Lieder](#) - Class of 1944 (July 8, 2015)

If you would like to honor someone special, you can make a donation to the Rockford Education Foundation which supports improvements and enhancements to the Rockford Area Schools. Click here to make a [memorial donation](#).

[2015 Memorials to Rockford Education Foundation](#)

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Ruth Orrick (Class of 1976)

Note: The following story is taken from the 2011 RHS graduation ceremony where Ruth was awarded the Rockford Area School's Distinguished Alumni award.

Ruth and her family moved to Rockford during her high school years. She graduated in 1976. One of her fondest memories is to recall her favorite teacher, Ms. Jeanne Bous as a teacher who brought to the classroom, every day, a depth of knowledge, quirky sense of humor and her commitment to excellence. She went on to say Ms. Bous knew when to have a good time with the students but she equally knew when we needed to give it their all. She never settled for second best from any of her students. The artful lessons of fun, of learning, of knowing when to step up to the plate and deliver your best, were not lost on Ruth. Her amazing life since Rockford High School is a journey of scholarship, service and educational excellence.

Ms. Orrick earned her Bachelor's degree in American Studies from the University of Minnesota - Minneapolis, and was a Humphrey Institute Policy Fellow at the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota - Minneapolis.

She also served as the chief executive officer of the Minnesota Democratic Farmer Labor Party from 1985 to 1990. Ms. Orrick is a regular commentator on statewide public affairs programs, a frequent speaker to business and civic organizations, and has taught graduate-level corporate communications. Currently, she is the Board Secretary for the Institute of Basic & Applied Research in Surgery.

From 1993 to 1994, she was with Himle Horner Inc., where she advised Fortune 500, public agency and non-profit clients in the areas of strategic planning, public affairs, communications, media relations and crisis management. From 1990 through 1992, Orrick was a public affairs consultant, serving as senior advisor to gubernatorial and congressional campaigns and candidates on reputation management, communications strategies, and organizational and policy issues.

From 2007 to 2008, she was an executive coach at Executive Coaching International, a professional coaching organization, specializing in custom executive coaching assignments. From 1994 through 2007, Ms. Orrick was with Thomson Legal and Regulatory, a \$3.6 billion professional services division of the Thomson Corporation (now Thomson Reuters), where she steadily progressed to a role of Senior Vice President of

Communications for Thomson Legal and Regulatory.

Since 2008, Ruth has been a corporate affairs consultant, commissioned for consulting contracts in the corporate and non-profit markets. On November 15, 2010, Ms. Ruth E. Orrick was appointed to the Board of Directors of Archipelago Learning, Inc.

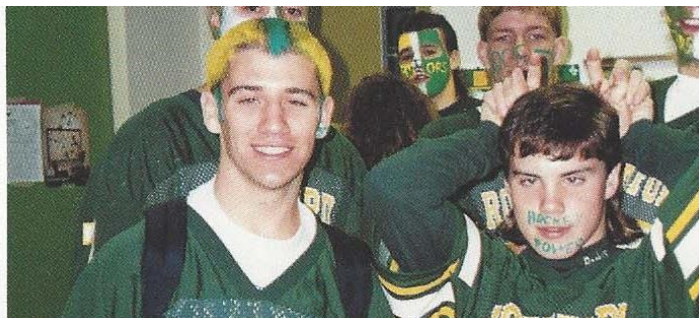
Ms. Orrick's accomplishments are evidenced by her passion for learning, commitment to public service, and her outstanding work in business. Her family has played an integral role in all of her successes. Joining her this evening is her husband, Michael, an executive at Thomson Reuters, who hails from Sydney, Australia and her son, Joe Stanoch, who is currently attending George Washington University at the Elliot School of International Affairs. Joe is perhaps following in his mother's footsteps. This summer he is interning for Minnesota's Attorney General Lori Swanson. Tess and Sam are Ruth's stepchildren, who currently attending school at the University of Newcastle in Australia and are unable to be with us this evening.

---- *If you have an alumni spotlight story, please contact Kelly at kelly@rockfordfoundation.org or 612-281-6588*

---- *Nominations are being accepted for [Distiniquished Alumni, Honorary Diploma and Activities Hall of Fame](#)*

YEARBOOK ARCHIVES

In honor of the class of 1995, here is a page from their yearbook! [click here for entire page](#)



RHS in the NEWS

[Students in Rockford start a store from scratch](#)

The Rockford Alumni Association is a new initiative of the Rockford Education Foundation