

# RANKEN

TECHNICAL COLLEGE

## THE DAVID RANKEN, JR. LEGACY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

March 2007

### PROFILE: BILL AND RUBY WAGNER

Bill Wagner has been associated with Ranken Technical College for most of his life. He graduated from the Carpentry program in 1936 and then devoted the better part of his career to teaching carpentry to others. Before returning to Ranken to teach, Bill spent 12 years working for a variety of companies gaining valuable knowledge and experience that he eventually passed on to his students.

Bill's teaching career spanned over three decades – from 1948 to 1982 – and his influence on the young people who went through the program was significant. One thing that is certain, Bill is fondly remembered by his former students. To this day, former students ask about him and share stories about their favorite instructor. Two

*"I'm glad that I can help future generations of young people pursue their dream of a Ranken education."*

years ago, one of Bill's students, Tom Wood (Class of 1955), purchased a brick on the Ranken "Walk of Fame" to honor him. In May 2006, Bill and Tom were able to walk together at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Graduation Ceremony.

Bill's lifelong devotion to helping young people isn't just limited to teaching Carpentry at Ranken. He has been equally active with the Boy Scouts, his church and other organizations where he is able to share his life experiences. While he was a leader in the Boy Scouts, Bill produced more Eagle Scouts (58)



*Tony Pisciotta, Director of Planned Giving (left) with Bill and Ruby Wagner*

than any other troop leader in the area, something that he shares with people even today.

At age 87, Bill's memory is as sharp as ever and he has a lot of stories to tell - recounting the names, dates, places - some chronicled in the black and white photos he carries around with him. He and his wife, Ruby, still live in the South County neighborhood where they raised their two sons, Dennis and David (who is deceased). You could say that Bill remains active, but the truth of the matter is, he never slowed down! Bill and Ruby attend almost every Ranken alumni event where he usually runs into one or two of his former students.

Two years ago Bill and Ruby attended an estate planning seminar hosted at the College where they learned about the Gift Annuity program. They decided to purchase an annuity – both as an investment for the future and as a means of contributing to the College.

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# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS — RANKEN LEGACY SOCIETY

Throughout its history, Ranken Technical College has benefited from the foresight and generosity of individuals who have remembered the school in their estate plans. David Ranken, Jr., was one such person.

The Legacy Society was formed in 2001 to recognize alumni, friends, trustees and others who have made a provision in their estate to support Ranken and its mission. In 2006 the Legacy Society was pleased to welcome two new members::

- » Mr. & Mrs. Robert Fish, '51 HVAC
- » Mr. & Mrs. David Roeder, '64 TLDIE

Pictured below are members receiving their Certificates of Appreciation from Ben Ernst, Ranken President, at the annual Legacy Society Luncheon held October 26, 2006. From top left, John and Kate Malesevich, Dave Roeder, William and Sue Fennewald, Eric and Barb Nelson.



## BILL AND RUBY WAGNER

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"We had money in a CD at our bank but we couldn't afford to give up the income," Bill said, "so we purchased a gift annuity from Ranken which offers a very competitive interest rate. The payments are guaranteed for both of our lives after which Ranken will benefit."

According to Bill, the thing he likes most about the annuity program is the opportunity

to help future generations of Ranken students.

"Before I was a student at Ranken, David Ranken contributed his entire estate to create an endowment benefiting students such as me. Mr. Ranken's gift is still supporting the College to this day. I'm glad that I can do the same to help future generations of young people pursue their dream of a Ranken education."

## CURRENT LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

William Baiotto, PMT '48  
Howard & Judi Bolton  
Lynn & Ruth Burgess, IEE '58  
Dennis Donnelly, Trustee  
Ben Ernst, President  
Jim Faughn  
William & Sue Fennewald, IEE '65  
\*Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fish, HVAC '51  
Mr. & Mrs. Byron Gregery  
    former Vice-President for Education  
John & Kate Malesevich  
Ken Meyer, Director of Annual Giving  
Pete Murtaugh, Vice President for Finance  
Eric & Barbara Nelson, CRP '57  
Carol M. Paule  
Anthony Pisciotta, Director of Planned Giving  
David Ranken, Jr. +  
\*Dave & Judy Roeder, TLDIE '64  
Vernon D. Schaefer, '67 Alum +  
Charles J. Skaer

Timothy and Sally Snavelly  
Paul Sodemann (PPLNT '13) Trust +  
Elsie J. St. Cyr  
Ralph V. Streiff, Trustee  
Steve & Laurie Swenson  
    Dept. Head, Electrical Technology  
Joseph E. Vollmar, Jr., Trustee  
William & Ruby Wagner, CRP '36  
Russell Webbink, IEE '48  
Tim & Carmen Willard -  
    Vice President for Development



+ DECEASED  
\* NEW MEMBER

## IRA GIFTS OFFER NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOME DONORS!

Thanks to recent changes to the tax laws, some individuals have the option of making tax-free charitable gifts from their IRA accounts directly to qualified charities such as Ranken. This provision provides donors with a valuable alternative to a straight cash gift. Donors can avoid the tax consequences of an IRA withdrawal or minimum distribution if they gift the money directly to charity. Certain provisions must be met when making a gift from an IRA. They include:

- » Donors must be at least 70.5 years old
- » The distribution must be made directly to qualified charity from an IRA
- » The maximum gift amount is \$100,000
- » It must be an outright gift
- » Gifts must be made by December 31, 2007

If donors meet these provisions, their IRA contributions will not be counted as income or taxed. Funds from 401 (k) or 403 (b) accounts do not qualify under this program. The program is attractive for people who don't need the income from their minimum distribution. It is also beneficial to people who do not itemize.

If you have been thinking about making a deferred gift to Ranken Technical College, the tax-free charitable IRA gift may be a good option for you to consider. It's fast, it's easy, and best of all, it doesn't cost anything.

*If you have questions about this program, or would like to discuss your situation, please call Tony Pisciotta, Director of Planned Giving, at 314-286-3621 for a confidential consultation.*



## SPECIAL THANKS TO THE PLANNED GIVING ADVISORY BOARD



*Members of the Planned Giving Advisory Board attended the fall meeting on September 29, 2006.*

Pictured from the left: Tony Pisciotta, Ranken Director of Planned Giving; Bill Comfort, Financial Representative, Maher, Rosenheim & Comfort, L.L.C.; John Malesevich, Investment Representative, Edward Jones; Angela Pearson, CTFA, Vice President - Trust Relationship Manager, Private Client Group, US Bank; Jayne Corley, estate planning attorney, The Corley Law Firm and Tim Snavely, Partner, BKD. Not pictured, Charles Disbrow, member, Ranken Board of Trustees.

The Planned Giving Advisory Board meets twice per year to offer input and advice in the area of wills and bequests, gift annuities, life insurance gifts and other deferred giving opportunities for alumni and friends of the College.

### **DAVID RANKEN, JR.** **LEGACY SOCIETY**

#### **RANKEN TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

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*For more information about Ranken Technical College,  
please visit us at [www.ranken.edu](http://www.ranken.edu)*

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