

SCHOLARSHIP / AWARDS 2010



There was a large and enthusiastic crowd on hand for the program in the PC Gym on Friday night.

For forty-one years, select Porterville College students have been rewarded for academic excellence with scholarship money in a special program. The idea was proposed by PC professor, Burl Cuffman, who felt students would continue their education at a higher level if they had money. That first year, \$7,450 was given out and the totals have grown dramatically, both in cash awarded and number of students who received the gifts. At this year's program, 89 students received scholarships totaling \$113,357 from 94 donors to the PC Foundation.

PC president, **Dr. Rosa Carlson**, stated *"students now, more than ever, need financial help to continue their higher education. We sincerely appreciate the members*

of the campus scholarship committee who research and select the students to be honored, and the members of the Foundation committee who solicit and manage the money that funds the scholarships. It is rewarding to know so many people are willing to give their time to making this great occasion happen, and especially to those generous donors who give money to go to our worthy students. All of these people can be proud that you make a difference in the lives of the award winners."

The top winner was **Jake Finley**, who received \$5,500 in scholarships. **Matthew McCleod** and **Sarah Ridenour** got \$5,000 each. **Alejandro Ramirez**, **Kalyn Reed**, **Wajeeha Akram**, and **Karina Fernandez** \$4,500; **Hollis Fleischer**, \$4,250; \$4,000 winners were **Natalie Torres**, **Majid Hassan** and **Isabel Magana**. **Sarah Chandler** and **Michael Wells**, \$2,100; **Vincent Alcantar** and **Lauren Pixler** \$2,000; **Adel Hussein**

and **Maria Corona**, \$1,750; At \$1,500 were **Denette Brents**, **Emily Dupree**, **Vanessa Howard**, and **Cody Stevens**; Receiving between \$1,100 and

\$1,300 were **Rebecca Rincon**; **Elvira Nunez**, **Jose Lopez**, **Timothy Hart**, **Amanda Gentry**, **Denisse Duran Lozano**, **Jesse Stevens**, and **Sabrina Ziegler**. Fourteen students won \$1,000 each and many others got varying amounts below that.



TOP, LEFT: Matthew McCleod received a total of \$5,000 in scholarships.

TOP: Jake Finley received a total of \$5,500 in scholarships.

LEFT: Sarah Ridenour received a total of \$5,000 in scholarships.



Rosa Carlson, PC President welcomes scholarship recipients, family and friends to Porterville College.

Porterville Rotary Club Annual “Spring Ball” Gains Helpers From PC Students & Staff

One of the community’s most prestigious events is the annual Spring Ball sponsored by the Porterville Rotary Club. It was conceived as a night of music, dancing, and honoring veterans of the military who missed getting to attend their high school graduations because of their service in wars. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of diplomas to nine such veterans from World War II and the Korean War.

Director/Producer of the event was **Maurice Ecung**, husband of PC Dean of Academic Affairs, **Dr. Antonia Ecung**. On hand as volunteers were 11 members of the PC Men’s basketball team and coach **T.J. Jennings**, two members of the Women’s team, along with President **Dr. Rosa Carlson** and PC students **Carly Ranson**, **Lucy Mendez**, **Mauricio Mejia**, **Jake Finley**, **Faviola Zamora**, and **Hillary Duysen**, all from the PC Rotarac club. Members of **David Chamberlain’s** PC Photo club were also present to help in this community outreach project. **Diane Thompson** and **Karen Ball** of the PC staff were among the volunteers. The college students seemed to enjoy the evening despite the fact that some of the music dated back to the 1930-1960 eras.



Upcoming Dates to Remember...

- May 8—EOPS/CARE/CalWORKS Award Ceremony, 10:30am, Library/LRC Breezeway
- May 12—Retirement / Recognition Celebration, 11:30am, Student Center
- May 14—Commencement, 7:30pm, Jamison Stadium
- May 19—Health Careers Graduation, 7:00pm, Gym

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Several groups of the PC family spent time reaching

out to the community at some big events across town. The Iris Festival in downtown Porterville produced very large crowds and PC had a booth on Main Street handing out informational packets



about the college, courses, and registration. The booth, manned by **Erin Cruz**, **John Ortega**, **Patricia Serrato**, **Judy Fallert**, **Patrick Chan**, **Tony Luna**, and **Baldomero Garcia**, stayed busy with lots of interest shown by visitors.

Literacy Porterville Reads event at the Fairgrounds was another location where a PC presence was. Every year this event is packed with youngsters excited to be read to by people from the community, including our own president, **Dr. Rosa Carlson**, who read to young children at the Rotary booth.

Fire Academy Expanding Again...

The Porterville College Fire Technology program has expanded its ability to support the training of student firefighters with the addition of a new training trailer. Last year, one was built and used by the regular firefighting classes and was a very big success. This additional trailer carries the equipment needed to conduct "wildland" firefighter training off-campus in realistic settings.

Developed by PC Fire Technology program coordinator, **Rich Stover** (pictured below) the 8' by 18' cargo trailer contains fire hose, a portable pump and a portable tank which are used to teach methods of using water to suppress vegetation fires and protect homes and outbuildings. The trailer is also equipped with a variety of other firefighting tools that support hands-on instruction in



firefighter safety and survival, construction of a fire line in grass and brush and other basic skills.

The exterior of the trailer is also put to good use. Sporting large color photos of PC Firefighter Academy students in action, it becomes a billboard on wheels, advertising that the PC Fire Tech Program is "Preparing Men and Women for Fire Service Careers" inviting potential future firefighters to visit the website www.portervillecollege.edu/fire_tech for more information in this career field.



EXTREME ENTREPRENEURSHIP TOUR ON PC CAMPUS

A very impressive group of young entrepreneurs made a stop on the PC campus to speak to a large crowd of high school and college students on the theme that anything is possible. The program was headlined by **Arel Moodie**, touted by several magazines as the "top young speaker in the nation". He is considered by the business world as the poster boy for "rags to riches" stories. He has spoken to over 65,000 students in 39 states on how to get through college successfully and to have a good life.

Students from Porterville, Granite Hills, Charter Summit Redwood, and Porterville Adult school, and those from the PC Entrepreneurs of the Future club attended the event. The day was sponsored by the PC Career and Technical Division Business Program and the attendees were treated to refreshments at the break. **Kailani Knutson**, Associate Professor, Business at PC, who coordinated the event, said it was a huge success and felt the students left with a new excitement to go out into the world and succeed.



PC & City Partner to Sponsor Youth Track Meet



The college teamed with the City Parks and Leisure Services to stage a track meet at Jamison Stadium. One of the teams which had been practicing at the stadium was named Junior Pirates. The meet featured teams from several local area schools and



youngsters from pre-school through the 8th grade participated. Some of the PC athletes showed up to volunteer help for some of the events.

PC CONNECTION FOR 200 STUDENTS

Approximately 200 students from area high schools accepted the offer to be guests of PC and take advantage of registering for Fall classes ahead of the regular enrollment rush. This has been an annual, successful event for a few years now and new students have enjoyed the individual attention they get from the volunteers on campus. Twelve counselors and advisors, made up of Faculty members, were on hand to help guide them through the process. The idea for the event came from **Virginia Gurrola** (below helping students), Director of Financial Aid/Admissions, and her capable staff. The



students are greeted at a sign-in station between the Library and LRC, by some administrators and staff, then assigned to a specific counselor. By the time they leave the campus, they will have been officially registered for the upcoming Fall semester. Because of the long lines and wait time, they will also have been treated to pizza, salad and drinks. The PC Connection has been a very strong outreach to new students and has helped convince many to start their higher learning at their local community college.

"Let there Be LESS Light"... Lauren Pixler, a PC student, was driving her car and

heard an announcer say something about everyone is capable of doing something to help preserve energy in honor of Earth Day. She decided right then to get to the campus and go around telling people they could do with LESS lights burning in their office. She went into the Computer Commons, Learning Center, Library, Student Services, Instruction Office, President's Office and many other departments/offices asking if they could turn out lights not being needed. She was amazed at how positive people were and that they promptly switched off unneeded lights. She also was seeking ways to reach everyone on campus to get the message across that a lot of energy could be saved by doing this switch-off every day.

"Update" says.....NICE GOING, LAUREN. We might add that even the budget committees should feel the effects of such a move by everyone.



Student Lauren Pixler with Vice President of Academic Affairs, Ann Beheler shown turning off extra lighting to conserve energy.