RBC students en route to Spain for the Spanish cross-cultural term
A Phon-A-Thon? Really?

When Ken Miller and Elizabeth Yoder began planning Rosedale Bible College’s first ever Phon-A-Thon, they weren’t sure what to expect.

“I had high hopes that it would work, but it was an unknown,” said Miller, RBC faculty member and director of public relations. “We’ve never done calling before.”

Why do a Phon-A-Thon now?

“This year Rosedale Bible College is facing significant financial challenges related to the current economic climate,” explained President Dan Ziegler. In response, the college launched The Stewardship Program, aimed at helping RBC meet these challenges by providing the essentials needed to operate the college. The Phon-A-Thon is a crucial part of that program.

Miller and Yoder selected a crew of 13 volunteer students, prepped them on telephone fundraising, and set up the conference room as Phon-A-Thon Central. Their goal? To raise $20,000.

On the evening of November 17, alumni phones began to ring. “Hi, my name is Kristen and I’m a student at Rosedale Bible College…”

Every time student callers received a pledge, they rang a bell. Sometimes they won a piece of candy (Snickers, Reese’s Peanut Butter Cups, or KitKats – nothing chewy!). If they got hungry, they could munch on trail mix or sip a Coke.

“I was pleased at the atmosphere in the room – the excitement,” said Miller. “The students caught on very quickly that they really were helping out in a greater cause.”

Yoder agreed, describing the experience as “very energizing. You’d hear six identical conversations starting three seconds apart, and bells ringing…” As the pledges came in, Yoder kept a running tally on the whiteboard in the room.

At the end of nine nights of calling (spread over several weeks), the number on the board surpassed the goal: $20,740.

Miller and Yoder were delighted.

A month after the Phon-A-Thon shut down, pledges were still coming in, totaling $36,535. Add to this figure $4,000 received in response to letters sent to alumni not reachable by phone, and the Stewardship Program total came to $40,535, more than twice the original goal.

What did the students think?

“I was surprised at how much the students enjoyed calling,” said Yoder. She also said she was surprised at how many young people were very generous in supporting the school financially.

Miller agreed. “The students were pleasantly surprised at how many people were willing to give to the school.”

Yoder is already looking forward to the next Phon-A-Thon. “We hope to do it annually and have greater success every year,” she said.

Random student interviews

What was it like to take part in the Phon-A-Thon?

Rebecca Diller: It was a little daunting at first, but it soon became natural.

Kristen Graber: It was time-consuming, but totally worth it. I enjoyed hearing the background sounds of other people on the phones as I scribbled down information or recorded a call on my call log sheet. It was also very rewarding, seeing the amount we had raised grow steadily.

Jared Weber: It was a good experience. I believe it gave me a good opportunity to work on my people skills!

Jason Rueger: The experience was good. It was encouraging to know we were making a difference by helping Rosedale.

Lara Shenk: Overall I would say it was a positive experience, and it was nice to have an opportunity to help the school out in such a direct way.
How did it feel to call people up and ask them for money?

**Kristen:** At first it was nerve-racking, especially those first calls when I was unsure what to say. I will never forget the time I got my first pledge. I was so excited, but then I realized I had forgotten what to do next. I had to ask the lady to wait while I asked Liz! After a while, it became easier; we always just hoped that a real person would answer the phone, instead of an answering machine.

**Lara:** It wasn’t bad once you got used to it, and I would like to blame the Phon-a-thon for my new skills in obnoxiousness.

What did you like best? Least? Why?

**Kristen Graber:** What I liked the most was getting together with a bunch of fun people and working towards a common goal. It gave us a sense of teamwork as well as mild, but fun, competition. Also, we always looked forward to those times when someone would ring their bell to signal that they had received a pledge.

What I liked least about the Phon-A-Thon was having to call people who were going through financially difficult times. I felt bad asking for money from people who would have liked to give, but couldn’t.

What did you learn?

**Rebecca Diller:** Good conversational skills for on the phone. I never liked talking on the phone before. Now I really don’t give it much thought.

**Kristen:** I learned to take none of the phone responses personally; if I did I would have had a roller coaster of self-esteem every night. I learned to be persistent, and also patient. Most of all, I learned to keep going in spite of my own blunders and embarrassments.

**Jason:** That a lot of people have good memories of Rosedale.

**Lara:** There are actually people who are very excited to give when you offer them the opportunity.

Would you do it again? Why or why not?

**Rebecca:** Yes! It was a lot of fun, and it was a great way to get to know people who I normally wouldn’t hang out with. It was also nice to know that in the midst of all of the fun we were helping out RBC.

**Kristen:** Yes, I would do it again. The pros definitely outweighed the cons, and I got to feel as though I was helping in something important and that I believed in. Besides all that, we had good snacks (!) and fun rewards for pledges received.

Favorite moments?

**Rebecca:** Laughing at the different comments that we would overhear people say on the phone. We had many different quotes by the end of it all.

**Kristen:** Favorite moments were those times when all would get quiet and we would hear a snippet of a one-sided phone conversation that was hilarious. The whole room would erupt in laughter!

**Lara:** Laughing over the funny answering machine messages and times when someone would accidentally start cracking up on the phone and we were all amused and horrified.

Excellent overheard quotes

**Marnin Gehman:** “My nose is doing excellent. How is yours, by the way?” (To the other students, afterwards: “She had surgery on her nose, y’all. The same kind of surgery I had on my nose, y’all.”)

**Kristen Graber:** “Finally, I get to send someone my face!” (Students sent reminder cards out with their pictures on them).

**Levi Campbell:** “You get a picture with my face on it...you can use it to throw darts at if you want!” (We’re assuming Levi knew this person.)

**Marnin:** “One more question – do you know my mom?”

An admirable donor quote

“RBC has saved me so much money. I want to give back!”
Love and hypochondria take the stage

Rosedale Bible College presented The Imaginary Invalid January 29-31.
Written and performed in 1673 by the French playwright Molière and translated by Charles Heron Wall, the play focuses on Argan, a man who has put too much trust in incompetent doctors. Those around him are willing to deal with his woes until he decides to marry off his daughter Angelique to a doctor – against her will. Angelique procures the help of her witty maid Toinette to convince her father to let her marry her true love, Cleante.

The Imaginary Invalid presented “interesting directing and acting challenges” according to director Christa J. Wolf. In comedy, timing, delivery, and physical action are all key factors. “Doing those things effectively can make or break the quality of the show,” she said.

Translating humor from seventeenth-century France for a modern American audience is also a challenge, but cast member Jason Rueger thinks that audiences could easily relate to the play’s characters. Rueger played Argan, the self-pitying invalid. Everybody knows what it’s like to feel sorry for oneself, and many people like to be the center of attention, but Argan takes these traits to new extremes. The result, said Rueger, is funny to watch.

Wolf teaches Introduction to Fine Arts at RBC and has directed 14 full-length productions in as many years. Two courses away from a Master’s in Theatre Arts from the University of Akron, she currently oversees the drama ministry at Mechanicsburg Christian Fellowship.

Dr. Diafoirus (Tim Yoder) examines Argan (Jason Rueger).

Rosedale Chorale 2010 Itinerary

The Rosedale Chorale will be touring this spring:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Church</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 21, Sun. p.m.</td>
<td>Turkey Run Mennonite</td>
<td>Logan, Ohio</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 28, Sun. a.m.</td>
<td>Fairlawn Mennonite</td>
<td>Apple Creek, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 28, Sun. p.m.</td>
<td>Bethany Mennonite</td>
<td>Hartville, Ohio</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 4, Sun. a.m.</td>
<td>Cherry Glade Mennonite</td>
<td>Accident, Md.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 4, Sun. p.m.</td>
<td>Maple Glen Mennonite</td>
<td>Grantsville, Md.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 5, Mon.</td>
<td>Metzler Mennonite</td>
<td>Ephrata, Pa.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6, Tuesday</td>
<td>Cannon Mennonite</td>
<td>Bridgeville, Del.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 7, Wednesday</td>
<td>Powhatan Mennonite</td>
<td>Powhatan, Va.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 8, Thursday</td>
<td>Trinity Mennonite</td>
<td>Farnville, Va.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 9, Friday</td>
<td>Dayton Mennonite</td>
<td>Dayton, Va.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 10, Saturday</td>
<td>Caney Creek Mennonite</td>
<td>Clayhole, Ky.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 11, Sun. a.m.</td>
<td>Oasis Community Fellowship</td>
<td>Lexington, Ky.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 14, Wednesday</td>
<td>Shekinah Christian School</td>
<td>Plain City, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 25, Sun. a.m.</td>
<td>Sharon Mennonite</td>
<td>Plain City, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 25, Sun. p.m.</td>
<td>Shiloh Mennonite</td>
<td>Resaca, Ohio</td>
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</tbody>
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RBC’s fourth Evangelical Anabaptist Symposium, Reaching Out Without Selling Out, drew over 100 people to campus November 12-14 to focus on reaching out to the surrounding culture while staying faithful to the call of discipleship. Speakers included President Dan Ziegler, Mel Shetler (shown above), David Greiser, John D. Martin, and RBC faculty member Phil Barr.
Salt & Light Co. to tour in early March

Rosedale Bible College’s Salt & Light Co. will take to the road with an acoustic musical program, Peace Like a River, this spring. The following is their itinerary:

March 7, Sunday a.m. Light-in-the-Valley Sugarcreek, OH
March 7, Sunday p.m. Pleasantview Mennonite Millersburg, OH
March 11, Thursday p.m. Allensville Mennonite Allensville, PA
March 12, Friday a.m. Belleville Mennonite Belleville, PA
March 13, Saturday p.m. Pond Bank Mennonite Chambersburg, PA
March 14, Sunday a.m. Cedar Street Mennonite Chambersburg, PA
March 14, Sunday p.m. Pinto Mennonite Church Pinto, MD

This year’s Salt & Light Co. is pictured at left: (rear, left to right) Kenyon Slabaugh, Bethany Barkdoll, Ben Cline, Bryant Gingerich, Lindsey Yoder, Andrew Miller; (front, left to right) Melissa Gingerich, Amber Swartzentruber, and Tim Yoder. Visit www.rosedale.edu or call 740.857.1311 for more information.

It’s not too late to sign up!

Leaving May 24th/25th; returning June 5th/6th:
Day 1 Travel Columbus to Amsterdam
Day 2 Amsterdam: flower auction, Singelkirk, Rijksmuseum (Anne Frank House?), dinner in Volendam – overnight in Zaandam
Day 3 Travel to Whitmarsum and Pingum (stop at Zaanse Schans, Alkmaar, overnight in Geithoorn – Dutch pancake dinner
Day 4 Canal boats, tour of Mennonite church, travel to Aachen, Germany
Day 5 Tour Charlemagne’s chapel, castle; travel to Paris – overnight in Paris
Day 6 Paris: Louvre together, then off in small groups – overnight in Paris
Day 7 Notre Dame together, afternoon in Paris, travel to Strasbourg
Day 8 Continue on to Strasbourg – tour Strasbourg – Struthof Concentration Camp and overnight at Ste. Odile Monastery
Day 9 Travel to Emmantal area, Switzerland. Start touring area, overnight in Langnau youth hostel
Day 10 Emmantal area: Trachselwald Castle, Frankhauser Farm, Trub – overnight in Langnau
Day 11 Day in the Alps: Interlaken, Murren to Schilthorn, overnight
Day 12 Drive toward Zurich – tour Zurich and Anabaptist Cave
Day 13 Flights from Zurich to USA!

Summer Institute is still open, too!
In 2008, RBC created endowed chairs to honor the life and ministry of Elmer Jantzi and Willard Mayer.

How to Give...

Enclosed is my gift of $________ toward:

☐ The Elmer Jantzi Chair of Theology
☐ The Willard Mayer Chair of Bible
☐ Either chair as needed

As God provides, I promise to give the following amounts toward:

**The Elmer Jantzi Chair of Theology:**
- $________ by December 31, 2010
- $________ by December 31, 2011

**The Willard Mayer Chair of Bible:**
- $________ by December 31, 2010
- $________ by December 31, 2011
- Either chair as needed:
  - $________ by December 31, 2010
  - $________ by December 31, 2011
  - If you choose to donate yearly, a reminder will be sent each November.

Thank you for partnering with us!

Recent RBC enrollment statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008/9</th>
<th>2009/10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freshmen</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophomores</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

97 97

Our 2009/10 students come to us from 17 states and one province. Ohio, Indiana and Pennsylvania taken together account for 54 students, but we also hear Southern accents on campus and enjoy those who come to us from the Mid-Atlantic states, the Northwest, and the Great Plains.

Veritas completes tour

RBC’s contemporary Christian band, Veritas, completed its winter tour on February 21 with an appearance at Crossway Vineyard in Urbana, Ohio. The band performed for youth in churches and schools in Maryland, Delaware and Ohio.

Alumni news

Brad Maust (80S, 82, 83S) of Salisbury, Pennsylvania, and Twila Snider (85) of Rosedale, Ohio, announce their engagement. The wedding is planned for March 26 at Cherry Glade Mennonite Church in Accident, Maryland.

Jeff (99, 00, 04) and Angela (Zehr) Heatwole (98, 99S), are living in Plain City, Ohio. Angela writes, “I love homeschooling our two girls- Julia (6) and Elise (4), teaching music classes, directing plays, and building my home business.

Dan (71, 72, 74) and Phyllis (Good) Miller (72, 73, 74) are living in McComb, Mississippi. Dan writes, “In 1994 we moved to McComb to be part of a home group fellowship church plant and have been here for the past 16 years.”

Tamara (Schantz) Bergen (95) of Kleefeld, Manitoba, reports, “My husband Menno has been running an airplane maintenance business for seven years now. This often takes him to northern Manitoba in spring, summer and fall.” They now have four children, three boys and a girl.

Andy (07, 08) and Debbie (Freed) Sommers (07) reside in Pottstown, Pennsylvania. Andy writes, “Debbie is working at Liberty Thrift. Its purpose is to fund a prison ministry that gives ex-cons the chance to start over once they are out of prison. They are given a job and a place to stay while they restart their lives. I am currently working at Chick-fil-A as a team leader (lower management). It’s been a good job while Deb and I are still trying to get started.”

Veritas members are, l. to r.: Jared Weber, Hans Shenk, Stefanie Yoder, Samantha Beachy, Jeremy Beitzel, and Aaron Tull.

These are nonresistant snowballs, of course...thrown in a nonresistant fashion.
Let the little children come...

Sherri (Stoll) (94) and Kevin Bontrag-er of Spencerville, Indiana, announce the birth and adoption of their third child, a daughter. Luca Bella Bontrager was born August 19, 2009, and wel-comed home by brother Caedmon (5) and Kaiya (3).

David (91, 93, 95-97S) and Mary Landis of Atmore, Alabama, welcomed Elizabeth Anne Landis on February 23, 2010. She joins Abigail, Joshua, and Benjamin.

Keith (04) and Oleda Miller (01, 02, 04) of New Paris, Indiana, welcomed their first child, Coral Marie, on De-cember 16, 2009.

Maria (Stoltzfus) (02, 04-05S) and Kerwin King (04), of Chochranville, Pennsylvania, announce the birth of their second child, Blake Kerwin King, on April 7, 2010.

Steven (05, 06) and Hannah (Mast Goss (06), of Greenwood, Delaware, had a second child, Avery Steven, on October 14, 2010.

Alumni News Form
Send us your news! The birth of a future alumnus, a career change, marriage, notable accomplishments or service assignments – we want to know about it.

Name: _________________________________________
Year(s) attended RBC: ____________________________
Address: ________________________________________
City: ___________________________________________
State: ______ Zip: __________ Phone: _______________
Email: __________________________________________

New Address? ______ (If so, please list old address here):
________________________________________________

News: __________________________________________
________________________________________________
________________________________________________
________________________________________________

Visit the online alumni reunion at RBC’s website, www.rosedale.edu, and find out more about what your classmates are doing!

May we put this in the online reunion? ______________
☐ I am enclosing a gift to RBC in the amount of $__________
It is hard to underestimate the importance of the young adult years. Studies show that the core values we adopt and the decisions we make during our first few years ‘out of the nest’ can chart the course of the rest of our lives. This holds true of faith commitments as well. As we move from childhood to adulthood, we must choose whether the faith of our family and church community becomes our own.

Research shows the significant effect the educational environment can have on the faith choices of young adults. In an extensive study, Dr. Steve Henderson followed nearly 16,000 young adults through four years of college, focusing on their faith development. Henderson paid special attention to those who indicated as freshmen that they had an active and saving relationship with Jesus Christ. Of these born-again young people, 85% chose to attend state and secular colleges. By the end of four years, over half of these young adults (52%) had renounced their faith and/or totally stopped attending church services. We all know young people who have emerged from the secular college setting with their faith intact, but Henderson’s study should give us pause.

What is it about the secular college environment that works against the faith of our young people? Is it the consistency of the humanistic worldview they encounter? Perhaps it is the influence of peers at college and their behavioral choices. Or maybe it is the way questions about life and meaning are answered in this setting.

Please understand, I am not against education in the secular setting; I have spent most of my own educational journey in secular universities. But I am concerned about sending our young people into these settings before they have the chance to ask important questions of belief and meaning in a place which supports their faith. Henderson’s study found that nearly 70% of born-again students turned away from their faith during their first year at a secular college. The results were vastly different for students who attended Christian colleges. For years RBC has owned the slogan “Lay a Sure Foundation.” In essence, we are called to provide a learning and spiritual environment that fosters a sure faith in Jesus Christ — to lay a foundation upon which our students can build the rest of their lives, because “no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”

By Dan Ziegler

President Dan Ziegler