

I·N·V·E·N·T·I·O·N

NEWSLETTER OF THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE

FALL/WINTER 1997



A corsage of roses marks a special day for Phyllis Greenberg '97, a member of the first graduating class of Thomas Edison State College's Master of Science in Management (MSM) program.

Selma Alprin '97 is joined by family and friends outside of the Princeton University Chapel, the site of Thomas Edison State College's festive 25th Anniversary Commencement.



Brenda Puzzele '97 is as bright as her bouquet of roses during the 25th Anniversary Commencement of Thomas Edison State College.

Gerri Collins honored with Distinguished Service Award

A very special woman was chosen to receive a very special award at Thomas Edison State College's 25th Anniversary Commencement, an award which is not given yearly, but only when deserved. Gerri Collins, recently retired special assistant to the College president, received the Distinguished Service Award for "rare and special leadership and devotion to the growth and development" of the College.

"Gerri Collins' legacy will endure through the lives of the many students, alumni, staff, faculty, board members and other colleagues she has personally touched," said Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of the College, in announcing the Board of Trustees' decision to present the award this year. "We are grateful for all she had done for her Thomas Edison State College family."

Collins, who recently moved to Indiana from Holland, Pa., retired this summer after 20 years of service to Thomas Edison State College. Earlier this year, she was

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Gerri Collins, recently retired special assistant to the president, addresses the 25th Anniversary Commencement after receiving the Thomas Edison State College Distinguished Service Award during ceremonies held on Sept. 27 at the Princeton University Chapel.

Silver Anniversary Commencement held in Princeton

Thomas Edison State College held a spectacular 25th Anniversary Commencement on Sept. 27 in the Princeton University Chapel. More than 275 of this year's Silver Anniversary graduat-

ing class of adult learners — from 18 states, including Texas, Washington and Florida — processed at Princeton's magnificent neo-Gothic chapel to receive their diplomas.

This Commencement marked many firsts for the College:

- The first graduates of the Master of Science in Management program
- The first inductees into Alpha Sigma Lambda, a national honor society for adult learners
- The triumphant return of members of the first graduating class

During the ceremony, Gerri

Collins, recently retired special assistant to the College president, received the Distinguished Service Award for "rare and special leadership and devotion to the growth and development" of the College. Furthermore, Peter R. Kann, CEO of Dow Jones and winner of the Pulitzer Prize, and Sir John S. Daniel, vice chancellor and CEO of British Open University, received honorary doctorates. Page through this special issue of *Invention* for stories about these exciting 25th Anniversary Commencement events. ♦

25th Anniversary Gala a success

The College community celebrated in style at the 25th Anniversary Gala of the Thomas Edison State College Foundation on Sept. 20 at the Forsgate Country Club in Jamesburg, N.J. The event, the most successful ever, generated a total of \$114,000. A record 393 guests enjoyed a fun-filled evening under the stars in an elegant tent, complete with dancing, dining and competing for fun prizes at a Silent Auction.

The Silent Auction, which featured tickets to exciting cultural and sporting events, and travel packages, raised \$9,535. The Gala Program Journal raised \$16,750 in ad sales. Much of the success was due to the fact that it was a banner year — the 25th Anniversary of the College.

The event had generous underwriting support from CoreStates, as well as in-kind printing underwriting support from the Sarnoff Corporation and the Parker Communications Group. An expanded Gala Committee really increased the outreach to the community for this special anniversary year.

One of the highlights of the evening was the presentation of the *Spirit Of Edison* awards. These awards recognize those community leaders and graduates of Thomas Edison State College who



This year's Spirit of Edison winners pause for a moment with College President Dr. George A. Pruitt (second from right). Enjoying the Gala are (l - r): John J. Heldrich of Highland Park, N.J., retired corporate vice president of Administration with Johnson & Johnson; the Honorable Joseph H. Rodriguez of Haddonfield, N.J., a judge with the U.S. District Court in Camden; and Lt. Howard E. Butt, Class of '95, of Bridgewater, N.J., acting bureau chief in command of the Narcotics and Organized Crime Bureau.

President Pruitt re-appointed to national quality panel

U.S. Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley has re-appointed Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College, to the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity.

"The role the Committee plays in advising me on matters relating to accreditation and institutional eligibility is very important to our key priority of ensuring access to a high quality post-secondary education for all student who desire it," wrote Secretary Riley in a letter to Dr. Pruitt. "I value the Committee's contributions to improving the education for all students. Thank you for offering your valued counsel and service to the Department of Education and the Administration."

In a letter to Dr. Pruitt on his selection as Mercer County Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year, Secretary Riley praised Dr. Pruitt for his substantial contributions to education.

"Our efforts to reform education, to ensure that all Americans have the tools they need to succeed and to expand opportunity for

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History in the making: Thomas Edison State College inducts Alpha Sigma Lambda Society

As part of the 25th anniversary Commencement, Thomas Edison State College inducted its first members into the Lambda Tau Chapter of Alpha Sigma Lambda (ASL), a national honor society for adult learners. Thomas Edison is the only college of its type in the nation to meet Alpha Sigma Lambda's high standards.

Alpha Sigma Lambda, which stands for "first in scholarship and leadership," recognizes adult students in continuing

higher education who have achieved academic excellence while fulfilling the many responsibilities of family, work and community service.

Designated the Lambda Tau Chapter, Thomas Edison now will recognize students who have earned a minimum of 30 earned credits through the College with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. Acceptance to this honor society is possible because of the distance learning options available through the

College's Center for Distance & Independent Adult Learning (DIAL). In addition to recognizing individuals for their achievements, the honor society sponsors a scholarship program.

Graduates inducted into ASL were honored at a reception prior to Commencement, and during the ceremonies, as well. They could be distinguished throughout the day by the garnet and gold honor cords which decorated their graduation gowns. ❖



These first inductees into Alpha Sigma Lambda included: Rebecca L. Mele, Donna A. Santantiello, Rev. Gregory K. Hotchkiss, Barbara A. Randall, Celeste Carpiano, Mary Ann Trent, Joan L. Fenton, Gary A. Hasenblag

Corporate VP earns degree the Thomas Edison way

BY BARBARA W. EKLUND

For Heidi Troy, a vice president at Summit Bank, the opportunity to earn college credits through Guided Study courses provided the flexibility she needed to pursue a degree while working full-time. To date, she has taken 13 Guided Study courses in the way to earning her Associate in Science in Management degree last March. She plans to continue taking Guided Study courses to reach her next goal — the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree. Troy just purchased a modem for her computer and hopes to take advantage of the growing number of on-line courses the College is offering.

Like many Thomas Edison students, Troy pointed out that she could not have completed a degree without the

flexibility that the College's programs offer. When she started to think seriously of pursuing a degree, Troy was working in North Jersey (where she had been transferred to several different bank branch locations in a short time) and living in Central Jersey. The idea of staying "up north" until late in the evening to attend classes and the fact that she was being transferred often made it difficult to select a college.

"I needed the flexibility that Guided Study offers, but that flexibility does not translate into ease," she quickly added. "You must be very disciplined. You are on your own and must set a schedule and stick to it to succeed."

Troy credits the faculty who mentor Guided Study courses with helping her to stay motivated and to succeed. "The faculty is terrific," she stated. "The majority of them were absolutely

fantastic. They were only a phone call away when I needed help and gave me good feedback."

In addition to the 39 credits Troy earned through Guided Study, she was able to earn credits for courses she had taken earlier in her career at the Stonier School of Banking. "Stonier had made it a point to let us know that we could receive college credit for our work there because the program had been evaluated by the American Council on Education, but at the time I was not that motivated to pursue college. I was not convinced that the degree would make much difference in my career as long as I continued to learn on the job and get promoted."

That was several years ago, and when a colleague was let go during a banking merger, Troy reconsidered the idea of pursuing a degree and began looking into her options. That is when she first heard of Thomas Edison through a newspaper article. (Coincidentally, Troy's success was recently the focus of a front page article in U.S. 1, a business newspaper in the Princeton, N.J. area, that featured adults earning college degrees.)

Flexibility, alternative delivery systems, "non-traditional" — these are words often used to describe Thomas Edison's programs. Ironically, Troy uses them in her work at the bank too. As vice president of Planning and Project Administration for the Alternative Delivery System Division at Summit Bank, she is involved in projects related to the non-traditional delivery of banking services to the public. Troy looks at branches, in-store branches, supermarkets and self-service type models. "We work to bring banking to our customers, anytime, anywhere." (Anytime, anywhere — sound familiar?) ❖



Heidi Troy

John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy Announces Half Million Dollars in Funding

The John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy at Thomas Edison State College has announced the receipt of a half million dollars in funding from public and private sources.

The funding includes a \$250,000 appropriation by the state to continue the Institute's impartial public policy research and analysis throughout New Jersey.

"The appropriation of these funds reinforces the Watson Institute's reputation as a premier public policy leader helping to improve the lives of men and women throughout our state," said Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College. "With this new funding, the Institute will continue to build on its many successes as a partner in initiatives with the N.J. Urban Mayors Association, Trenton NetDay and the Atlantic City school system, among others, and to move ahead with new programs."

Sen. Dick LaRossa (R-Dist. 15) praised the quality of the Institute's programs. "The Institute has done outstanding work at the state and local level," he said. "I congratulate the Institute for the significant work it is doing which has resulted in the tremendous support it is receiving from external foundations and philanthropic groups."

In addition to the state appropriation, the Institute has received grants from foundations and philanthropic groups, including the Schumann Fund, the Fund for New Jersey, the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, Public Service Electric & Gas, Kiwanis Club Charitable Foundation, CoreStates New Jersey National Bank and other organizations.

"The John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy is unique in New Jersey and perhaps throughout the United States as well," said William A. Watson, executive director of the Institute, which was named for his father, the late Assemblyman John S. Watson. "The Institute provides objective, nonpartisan analysis and research on an unusually diverse array of subjects, ranging from economic development to the urban environment."

Looking ahead, Watson said that the Institute would be involved in policy studies to reduce the costs of healthcare, to stimulate economic development in the state's urban centers and to support education, technology and environmental planning issues facing New Jersey cities.

The John S. Watson Institute at Thomas Edison State College is located in the Kuser Mansion, 315 W. State St., Trenton, N.J. Further details on the work of the Institute may be obtained by calling (609) 777-4351. ❖

Three New Jersey leaders selected for 1997 Spirit of Edison awards

A State Police acting bureau chief, a district court judge and a corporate vice president (retired) were awarded the prestigious Spirit of Edison awards during the 25th Anniversary Gala of the Thomas Edison State College Foundation.

The Spirit Of Edison awards recognize those community leaders and graduates of Thomas Edison State College who embody the commitment to innovation, concern for the public good and the spirit of excellence associated with Thomas Alva Edison and the mission of the College.

LT. HOWARD E. BUTT,
CLASS of '95, of BRIDGEWATER,
N.J., ACTING BUREAU CHIEF IN
COMMAND OF THE NARCOTICS AND
ORGANIZED CRIME BUREAU

A member of the New Jersey State Police with 26 years of service, Lt. Howard E. Butt has had a long and distinguished career in promoting public welfare. It is his dedication to serving the public good and his devotion to improving the quality of life through higher education that has precipitated his selection as the alumni recipient. Butt is the acting bureau chief (awaiting a promotion to captain) in command of the Narcotics and Organized Crime Bureau.

JOHN J. HELDRICH of Highland
Park, N.J., RETIRED CORPORATE
VICE PRESIDENT OF ADMINISTRATION
with JOHNSON & JOHNSON

Combining a career as a senior executive for the world's leading health care products company with a record of leadership and commitment to public, community and civic service makes John J. Heldrich a natural choice for the Spirit of Edison Award. Heldrich retired from Johnson & Johnson in 1991, after nearly 41 years with the company. At the time of his retirement, he was corporate vice president of Administration and a member of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

THE HONORABLE JOSEPH H.
RODRIGUEZ of Haddonfield,
N.J., A JUDGE with THE U.S.
DISTRICT COURT IN CAMDEN

Known for his dedication to community, the Honorable Joseph H. Rodriguez was recognized for the high standard of excellence and dedication to humanitarianism which are the true measure of "spirit" for which the award was designed. His career in the judicial system spans nearly 30 years. ❖

Dow Jones CEO and British Open University vice chancellor receive honorary degrees

Two outstanding individuals — both businessmen, one a journalist, one an educator — received the highest honor bestowed by Thomas Edison State College during the 25th Anniversary Commencement. Peter R. Kann and Sir John S. Daniel received the Doctor of Humane Letters degree, *honoris causa*.

PETER R. KANN: JOURNALIST, HUMANITARIAN

Peter R. Kann, chairman and chief executive officer of Dow Jones & Company, has been with Dow Jones since 1963. His interest in the newspaper business can be traced back to his assignment as a copy boy for the *Princeton Packet* during high school. A native of Princeton, N.J., he graduated from Harvard University with a bachelor's degree in government. Kann started his 24-year career at Dow Jones as an intern in the San Francisco bureau of *The Wall Street Journal*. Stints as a staff reporter in Pittsburgh and Los Angeles led to increasingly responsible positions at Dow Jones.

During his tenure, he has worked in most every aspect of the Dow Jones business. In 1967, he became the *Journal's* first resident reporter for the Vietnam War. From 1969 through 1975, he continued to cover the Vietnam War, as well as other events across Asia, as a roving reporter based in Hong Kong. He won a Pulitzer Prize for distinguished reporting on international affairs for his coverage of the 1971 India-Pakistan War. He has served as the first publisher and editor of *The Asian Wall Street Journal* (1976), associate publisher of *The Wall Street Journal* and vice president of Dow Jones (1980),

executive vice president (1985),

publisher of the *Journal* and

editorial director of Dow

Jones' publications

(1989), and president

and chief operating

officer (1991).

A former chairman of

the Pulitzer Prize Board,

Kann also is a member of

the Board of Trustees of

The Asia Society, the

Institute for Advanced Study,

Spelman College and The

Aspen Institute. ♦

SIR JOHN DANIEL: EDUCATOR, VISIONARY

Sir John Daniel, CEO and vice chancellor of British Open University, is one of the world's most experienced university leaders.

Sir John's own higher education took place in the ancient universities of Europe, where he obtained a first class honors degree in metallurgy from Oxford and a DSc from the University of Paris. He began his academic career at École Polytechnique, the Engineering School of the University of Montreal, in 1969, and simultaneously enrolled as a part-time student in a Master's program in Educational Technology. The internship required by that program took him to the United Kingdom's new Open University and proved to be a life-altering experience.

On returning to Canada, he joined the team to create Quebec's Télé-université. He has served as vice president of Athabasca University, the open university of western Canada, as vice rector (academic) at Montreal's Concordia University and as president of Laurentian University in Ontario. He spent the 1989-90 academic year in the executive program in international security at Canada's National Defence (sic) College; during that time, he was named vice chancellor of the United Kingdom's Open University.

Sir John has played an active part in professional societies as president of the International Council for Distance Education and president of the Canadian Society for the Study of Higher Education. Currently, he is a trustee of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and a member of British North American Committee; vice president of the International Baccalaureate Organisation (sic); and a council member of the Open University of Hong Kong. In 1994 he was knighted by the Queen for services to higher education. ♦



Partnerships with Thomas Edison benefit employees, employers

BY BARBARA W. KLUND

A diverse group of organizations has entered into partnerships with Thomas Edison State College, through its Office of Corporate-Higher Education programs, and is taking full advantage of the benefits that such a relationship provides to the organization and its employees. Often the partnership has been the catalyst for employees to continue their education and earn college degrees.

Each partnership agreement is unique and based on the organization's needs and characteristics and the goals of the employees. When a partnership includes a College Credit Recommendation Service (formerly PONSII) component, Thomas Edison will provide a template model that demonstrates how ACE-evaluated courses fit into degree requirements. Once an agreement is signed, the College works with the specific organization as partners to help them promote the benefits to employees.

Recent partnership agreements include the following organizations:

American Institute of
Banking of New Jersey (AIBNJ)
Bergen County Police
and Fire Academy
Caesars Atlantic City
Christopher Academy
Institute for Certified Travel Agents
Institute for Logistical Management
Omaha Public Power District
Recovery Assistance
Program Training
Technical Training Project

For more information about how your employees can benefit from a corporate partnership with Thomas Edison State College, call the Office of Corporate-Higher Education Programs at (609) 984-1168 or e-mail corpinfo@call.tesc.edu. ♦

Gerri Collins...from p.1

honored at a dinner in Trenton's Roman Hall which was attended by more than 100 family, friends and colleagues.

The Distinguished Service Award recognizes Collins for the many major contributions she has made to the success of Thomas Edison State College. Collins joined the College in 1977 as an academic counselor. In 1981 she became the assistant to the vice president for Academic Affairs, and in 1982 became executive assistant to the president.

A skilled advisor, Collins showed special sensitivity to the needs of the adult student, and is highly regarded by the students she has counseled. She strongly influenced the development of a variety of student services for the College including planning, advisement, academic evaluation and examinations.

As executive assistant to the president, Collins made contributions in every area of the College, including coordinating the activities of the Board of Trustees and developing policies and maintaining high standards for affirmative action.

Most recently, Collins made a unique and very special contribution to the entire Thomas Edison community through her work researching and writing the 25th Anniversary history of the College, *Thomas Edison State College, A "New Tradition" in Higher Education*. "Her creative, enthusiastic approach to this arduous endeavor has resulted in a very tangible gift to us all," said Dr. Pruitt. ♦

Arnold Fletcher Award

The Arnold Fletcher Award recognizes Thomas Edison State College baccalaureate graduates for exceptional achievement in independent learning. Students selected have demonstrated excellence and have earned a large number of credits using one or more of the innovative learning modes recognized by the College: examinations (TECEP®—Thomas Edison College Examination Program, CLEP, ACT PEP); correspondence programs; distance learning through the College's Guided Study program, Contract Learning and On-Line Computer Classroom®; learning via personal computer using the CALL® (Computer Assisted Lifelong Learning) Network; evaluation of corporate and military training; assessment of college-level knowledge gained through professional experience; and classroom instruction at other accredited colleges and universities. The award is named in honor of Dr. Arnold Fletcher, vice president for Academic Affairs at Thomas Edison State College

from 1973 to 1983.

Forty-nine baccalaureate graduates were honored at the College's 25th Anniversary Commencement on Sept. 27. Pictured from the left are James R. Mellor of Bordentown, N.J.; Albert G. Curving of Flemington, N.J.; Renee F. Bergmann of Cherry Hill, N.J.; William H. Denlinger of Lakehurst, N.J.; Teri Moore of Trenton, N.J.; John R. Schunder of Virginia Beach, Va.; Cynthia Jackson-Glenn of Tobyhanna, Pa.; Suzan J. Goldner of Edison, N.J. and Geraldine B. Gibbons of Englishtown, N.J.

Not pictured are Albert M. Artholfer of Mountain Lakes, N.J.; James N. Bassett of Charlotte, N.C.; Sharon L. Bender of Newton, N.J.; Nomi G. Bialoglowski of Brooklyn, N.Y.; Randy P. Coleman of New Market, Md.; Luis Cueli of Elizabeth, N.J.; Susan C. Curtis of Oviedo, Fla.; Larry D. DelBaggio of Fort Lee, N.J.; Nicholas J. DeNardo of Newport News, Va.; Yehudit Fisher of London, England; Keith A. Fossen of Delano, M.N.; Russell A. Fox of



Philadelphia, Pa.; Debbie Furman of Jerusalem, Israel; James N. Grimm of Jacksonville, Fla.; Jamie Heulitt-Priester of Levittown, Pa.; Ruthann Hubbert of Marysville, Pa.; Edward H. Hubley of Virginia Beach, Va.; Stanley Klein of Wilmington, Del.; Tzipporah Levi of Monsey, N.Y.; Hadassah K. Lewis of Amsterdam, Holland; Gerard J. Monchek of Cardiff by the Sea, Calif.; Carlos A. Montoya of San Jose, Calif.; Patrick J. O'Reilly of Bayonne, N.J.; George A. Polentarutti of Bayonne, N.J.; Yohanna Pollak of New Haven, Conn.; Robin Sabo of Jerusalem, Israel;

Toby D. Sabo of Brooklyn N.Y.; Rina Schachter of Jerusalem, Israel; Pamela A. Sharfman of West Orange, N.J.; Richard J. Sponsel of Denver, Colo.; Frederick J. Stollsteimer of Havertown, Pa.; Daniel Thiel of Cincinnati, Ohio; James R. Trammel of Pacville, Calif.; Edward P. Tremblay of Orlando, Fla.; James Van Hassel of Muskegon, Mich.; Stephen W. Varonka of Bloomsburg, Pa.; Justin C. Villars of Port Allen, La.; Gerald L. Woolsey of Carlsbad, N.M.; Shennon Yaw of Lancaster, N.Y.; and Sara Ziskind of Lakewood, N.J. ♦

State Library Receives Gifts Totaling \$326,000

Bequests to the New Jersey State Library are on the rise! Because of the generosity of several library patrons, the State Library received nearly \$275,000 in bequests over the past 15 months. The bequests were made to the New Jersey Library for the Blind and Handicapped, which provides informational and recreational books, without charge, to anyone living in New Jersey who for any physical reason cannot read regular printed books with ease. The bequests were made by long-time patrons of the library's services.

The Library for the Blind and Handicapped was delighted to received \$52,500 from

two private donors during the past year as well. These important gifts will become part of the Library's general fund and will support its services, which include a book collection with more than 48,000 titles available in Braille, talking book records, cassettes and books in large print.

Libraries rely on gifts such as bequests to support programs and services to the public that otherwise might not be funded. In the late 1960s, the State Library received a \$400,000 bequest from Nathaniel and Florence Taylor Tischler to improve library service in "small and needy" libraries. Recently, a portion of

this bequest became part of *Libraries 2000*, New Jersey's Technology Plan for Libraries in the 21st Century, which provides that every public library in the state have at least one state-of-the-art multimedia computer capable of accessing both on-line databases and the Internet. Through this very important gift, the Tischler fund has so far provided 30 small public libraries with grants to provide public access to the Internet and the World Wide Web. This will bring New Jersey one step closer to assuring that every resident has full and equal access to on-line library electronic resources.

The New Jersey State Library is affiliated with and administered by Thomas Edison State College. ❖

New Jersey libraries receive \$5 million for technologies and Internet Access

Thanks to a \$5 million bond issues, the New Jersey State Library, an affiliate of Thomas Edison State College, is taking action to make Internet access the birthright of every New Jersey citizen.

"We are starting today to implement Libraries 2000, the State Library's strategy to link all the state's public libraries electronically and provide unparalleled access to information throughout New Jersey," said Jack Livingstone, the state librarian. "We are thrilled to be the agent which will provide Internet and other electronic information access to everyone in our state by the turn of the century."

Libraries 2000 is the result of a partnership among the State Library, Thomas Edison State College and the New Jersey Library Association. Sen. Donald T. DiFrancesco (R-22), Assemblyman Jack Collins (R-3) and Assemblyman David W. Wolfe (R-10) sponsored the legislation leading to implementation.

The State Library's non-matching grant will be provided under the Higher Education Technology Infrastructure Fund within the New Jersey Educational Facilities Authority. Under Libraries 2000 all public libraries:

- will be linked electronically
- be equipped to implement Libraries 2000
- have Internet and World Wide Web access
- have access to an on-line bibliographic database and an interlibrary loan system
- have access to the full text periodical articles and information in electronic formats
- have staff with the expertise and skills to implement Libraries 2000

Other goals include citizen awareness of the role of libraries in information access, continuation of traditional library services as needed and sufficient funding for implementation.

"We're delighted with the support that the library community received from the governor and the legislature for the implementation of state-of-the-art technologies for our local libraries," Livingstone said.

Created in 1796, the New Jersey State Library consists of three bureaus: State Government Information Services, the Library for the Blind and Handicapped and Library Development. The State Library has 1.9 million holdings and the state's largest collection of Jerseyana. Its Web address is <http://www.state.nj.us/statelibrary/njlib.htm>. ❖

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embody the commitment to innovation, concern for the public good and the spirit of excellence associated with Thomas Alva Edison and the mission of the College. This year's recipients were Lt. Howard E. Butt, Class of '95, of Bridgewater, N.J., acting bureau chief in command of the Narcotics and Organized Crime Bureau; John J. Heldrich of Highland Park, N.J., retired corporate vice president of Administration with Johnson & Johnson; and the Honorable Joseph H. Rodriguez of Haddonfield, N.J., a judge with the U.S. District Court in Camden. Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison, made the presentations. ❖



Tripping the light fantastic during this year's Gala are Barbara Lynch-Johnson '96 and her husband, Timothy.

Extra! Extra!

If you've been following the news about Thomas Edison State College, you know we've had a very "hot" summer. The College started off the season by being named one of 20 Top Cyber-Universities by *Forbes Magazine* in its June 16 edition. The listing came at the end of a positive article about on-line learning entitled "Phi Beta Cyber." One of our on-line students, Irene Portice, was the first student featured in a "sidebar" column on "The People of Cyber U." In the 20 Top Cyber Universities listing, we were in good company: Carnegie Mellon, Duke University's Fuqua School of Business, Michigan State, New School for Social Research, Nova, Old Dominion and University of Maryland-College were also listed.

U.S. 1, a weekly newspaper serving the Rt. 1 corporate corridor in central New Jersey, featured two of our executive students—Ray Borysewicz, MSM student and Thomas Edison undergraduate alumnus, of American Cyanamid;

and Heidi Troy, bachelor's candidate, a vice president with Summit Bancorp—in its July 30 edition. The article, "Live and Learn," examined how people without traditional college degrees land great jobs.

In addition, one of our recent graduates, Karen Pszwaro of Swedesboro, was profiled in *The Chicago Tribune* on Aug. 12. The article focused on her positive educational experience with Thomas Edison. Weekday circulation is more than 678,000. Student Lisa Hazelrigg was similarly profiled in California's San

Ramon Valley Herald.

The College also got a "seal of approval" from *Good Housekeeping*. Thomas Edison is listed in the September edition of *Good Housekeeping* magazine in an article on "Distance Learning for Adults" featured in "The Better Way" section. *Good Housekeeping* has a circulation of 5,200,000. Conservatively, each issue is read by four different individuals. Readers are likely to be women with children, including homemakers who would be good candidates for distance degrees. ❖

Thomas Edison's Who's Who scholars

The 1997 edition of *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges* will include the names of 43 students from Thomas Edison State College who have been selected as national outstanding leaders.

These students have been selected based on their academic achievement, service to the community, leadership and potential for continued success. They join the elite group of students selected from more than 1,900 institutions of higher learning in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and several foreign nations. Outstanding students have been honored in the annual directory since it was first published in 1934.

Students named this year from Thomas Edison State College are: Gokul A. Bahadur of Lake Hiawatha, N.J.; Corey A. Barum of Winona, M.N.; Meridee T. Bell of San Antonio, Texas; Douglas A. Bowker of Lakewood, N.J.; Scott F. Bussey of Colchester, Ver.; Celeste Carpino of Colts Neck, N.J.; Clay C. Chaffee of Oceanside, Calif.; Christian B. Cleary of Gonzales, La.; Mark S. Corbett of Honolulu, Hawaii; Gene P. Creamer of Omaha, Neb.; Albert G. Curving of Flemington, N.J.; Robert D. Daniels, Jr., of Middletown, Ohio; Greg W. Downs of Martinez, Ga.; Catherine Farley of Hightstown, N.J.; Bobby L.

Flack of Roanoke, Va.; Charles E. Fletcher of Hampton, Va.; Kelly D. Frizzell of Sebastopol, Calif.; Patricia A. Gianotti of Toms River, N.J.; Scott A. Goess of Clarksboro, N.J.; Alexander K. Gray of Havelock, N.C.

Also Leanne B. Jacobson of Jerusalem, Israel; Richard J. Kosmoski of Parlin, N.J.; Thomas J. Koury of Mashpee, Maine; Patricia C. LaRosa of Dumont, N.J.; Dawn R. Love of Philadelphia, Pa.; Susan N. Michaud of Hackensack, N.J.; Gregory A. Moore of Las Vegas, Nev.; Henry P. Pasqualini of Toms River, N.J.; Patricia A. Peppi of Neptune, N.J.; Michele B. Pulis of Lake Hopatcong, N.J.; Sean R. Raley of Washington, Pa.; Chana F. Refson of Jerusalem, Israel; Doris E. Rodriguez of Raritan, N.J.; Hadassah Sadowsky of Brooklyn, N.Y.; Ruth Shurin of Brooklyn, N.Y.; Antoinette Slack of Lambertville, N.J.; Richard H. Smith of Alexandria, Va.; John J. Tomor of Charlestown, R.I.; Martin A. Treu of Hainesport, N.J.; Douglas D. Trump of Fogelsville, Pa.; Candida D. Velvet of Branson, Mo.; Steven G. Weismann of Columbia, S.C.; and Sherman A. Williams IV of Fremont, Calif.

Congratulations to these excellent scholars! ❖

Each One, Reach One

Pass this along to a friend who can benefit from Thomas Edison State College's services for adult learners!

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Work Phone _____ Home Phone _____
E-mail _____

Mail this coupon to: Thomas Edison State College, Office of Admissions
101 W. State St., Trenton, N.J. 08608-1176

Questions? (609) 984-1150

Each One, Reach One Campaign Reaches Out Once Again!

First on-line master's graduates

In a moment that will forever redefine the history of Thomas Edison State College, eight capped and gowned students received master's degrees, a first for the College and a first for an on-line master's program.

Composed primarily of AT&T managers, the on-line Master of Science in Management graduates enjoyed the pomp and circumstance of the College's 25th anniversary Commencement along with more than 200 other associate and baccalaureate degree recipients. John Alpert of Hackettstown, N.J., was the first to graduate, and also was the student speaker during the historic ceremonies held at the Princeton University Chapel in September.

For the past 18 months, the MSM program's test group, sponsored largely by AT&T, has been pioneering the concept of earning a master's on-line. Now, after countless hours of e-mailing, phoning and faxing from North Carolina, Florida, Georgia and New Jersey, the grads looked back on their experience in an article recently published in *The Times* (of Trenton):

"I'm looking forward to seeing my classmates again," said Bruce Hall, a Lopatcong, N.J., resident. Master's candidates met each other twice during two weekend residency programs, the only non-on-line portion of the program.

"I travel 40 to 48 weeks a year as an instructor for AT&T," said Madeline Schwertfager of Orlando, Fla. "So, I couldn't have tackled this the traditional way. Most of us are doing 40- to 80-hour weeks. In that environment, taking two or three

courses a semester on top of family obligations would have been impossible."

Still, Madeline enjoyed the bonding this intensive program fostered. "It's not just an educational experience. I could tell you Bill owns a real estate company, that Harry was the mayor of his town, or how I talked with Bruce's wife every night. We're like a little extended family," she added. "I'm driving up to be there to celebrate with my classmates in person." ❖



Enjoying the Silver Anniversary Commencement are the first Master of Science in Management (MSM) graduates: Madeline Schwertfager, Bruce Hall, Phyllis Greenberg, John Alpert, Harry Fuerstenberger Jr., William Reed and Laura Earl.

Catholic University of Peru/Thomas Edison Share Expertise

Educators from the Catholic University of Peru in Lima recently visited Thomas Edison to meet with College staff as part of an agreement to exchange resources and information. While most of the partnerships being coordinated through the Office of Corporate-Higher Education have as their basis a more direct student affiliation, this agreement, the first ever that the Catholic University has pursued with a college in the United States, has a different focus.

"From our meetings it is clear that the University views Thomas Edison as a model program in the areas of partnerships and distance learning, and that they will be relying on our expertise as they further develop these areas in Peru. This agreement will provide the avenue to share resources and information as we look at the commonalities of serving the adult learner," stated Dr. Jerry Ice, vice president and provost, Thomas Edison State College.

Catholic University of Peru, founded in 1917, is the oldest established private higher educational institution in Peru. The student population is over 12,000 and programs are available at the introductory, undergraduate and post-graduate levels. The dialog between the university and Thomas Edison began earlier this year when Daniel Negron, assistant director, Office of Corporate-Higher Education Programs, was in Peru on a personal visit and met with several educators. ❖

Staff Presentation is Broadcast to 265 AT&T Sites

Thanks to the miracle of satellite technology, two Thomas Edison State College staff members engaged AT&T employees at 265 sites nationwide in an interactive discussion of how they can complete college degrees through distance learning. The satellite teleconference, titled "Education Where You Live and Work: Thomas Edison State College, An AT&T Partner in Learning," was broadcast Oct. 30 from AT&T's satellite studio

in Kansas City, Mo.

Dr. Jerry Ice, vice president and provost, and Dr. Sonja A. Eveslage, assistant vice president for Corporate College Programs, blended video, PowerPoint graphics and live, interactive discussion with AT&T employees throughout the country in a multi-media teleconference on how busy adults can complete degrees through Thomas Edison State College.

"It was a pleasure to work

with AT&T on this leading-edge presentation on the future of higher education," said Dr. Ice. "Thomas Edison State College continues to pioneer new avenues of access for adults who wish to complete degrees without interrupting their busy lives."

AT&T employees at sites ranging from Alabama to the U.S. Virgin Islands and West Virginia took part in the teleconference. Thirteen sites in New Jersey carried the broadcast. ❖

The name has changed; good service is the same

The American Council on Education recently announced a name change for their program formerly known as ACE/PONSI (the Program on Noncollegiate Sponsored Instruction). Effective immediately, this ACE program has been renamed the College Credit Recommendation Service (CCRS).

This name change does not change any of the details of the program or the ACE-Thomas Edison State College relationship. Thomas Edison will continue to operate the program for ACE in the greater New Jersey area, as it has done since 1981. "PONSI" has become a familiar name among the over 1,200 colleges and universities nationwide that award credits for courses recommended by ACE. The program also is recognized by hundreds of organizations who have had ACE recommendations of their education and training programs and have a working relationship with ACE. ❖

Military Symposium on higher education services

Thomas Edison State College, known for outreach to military servicemembers around the globe, sponsored "A Symposium on Military Higher Education Services" at Fort Monmouth, N.J., on Oct. 24. The Symposium highlighted changes within military education and how that education is delivered to servicemembers.

Attendees heard Dr. Steve Kime, executive director of Servicemembers Opportunity College (SOC), discuss "Military Education at a Crossroads, Implications for the Education Provider." Dr. Frances Kelly, head of the Volunteer Education Programs for the Bureau of Naval Personnel, covered "The Changing Role of Education and Education Services: Making a Case for Technology."

Earning credit for experience was covered by Dr. Jeffrey P. Cropsey, deputy director of DANTES, during "DANTES as Education Broker:

Investing in the Education Future of DOD." Thomas Edison State College's experts, including Vice President and Provost Dr. Jerry Ice, Vice Provost and Academic Dean Dr. Patricia M. Sparks, and Associate Dean, Applied Science and Technology, Dr. Susan Friedman, moderated and provided feedback during "Developing a Strategic Response."

Like Thomas Edison, SOC also is celebrating its 25th anniversary. SOC has played a major role as a partner with the Department of Defense and the higher education community in helping service members meet their voluntary higher education goals. Thomas Edison State College, a network participant with SOC, has been a long time provider of educational services to the military.

For more information about military partnerships, contact us at (609) 292-6565, admissions@call.tesc.edu or <http://www.tesc.edu>. ❖

Dr. Pruitt re-appointed...from p.1

all our citizens rely heavily upon the leadership of individuals like George Pruitt," he wrote. "Dr. Pruitt's innovative approach to teaching adult learners and using information technology provide an important model for education for the 21st century. His selfless service to a wide range of community and government organizations, including the U.S. Department of Education, makes him deeply deserving of (this) honor..."

A pioneer in quality higher education for adult learners, Dr. Pruitt has served as assistant to the dean of the faculty and instructor of education at Illinois State University, dean of students Towson State University, vice president and associate professor of urban affairs at Morgan State University, and vice president and professor of education at Tennessee State University.

Immediately prior to his appointment as president of Thomas Edison State College in 1982, Dr. Pruitt served as executive vice president for the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning. Dr. Pruitt attended the University of Illinois and Illinois State University where he received his bachelor's and master's degrees. He completed his doctoral studies at The Graduate School of The Union Institute in Cincinnati, Ohio. He holds three honorary degrees, serves on numerous boards and commissions, and in a 1986 study funded by the Exxon Education Foundation, was identified as One of the Most Effective College Presidents in the United States.

He has consulted both nationally and internationally in business and government, as well as within the higher education community. He has received numerous awards and commendations, and has served in advisory capacities to three United States secretaries of education under two presidents of both parties. ❖

Building the future of education

The Thomas Edison State College Townhouse renovation and restoration project is in full swing. Currently, the initial phase of construction is underway. Excavation has been completed, and the concrete foundation is in construction. The next phase is erection of structural steel. Construction will continue through the winter months, with project completion slated for the summer of 1998. ❖



ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

Dear Fellow Alumni,

This year, the Alumni Association has been celebrating Thomas Edison State College's 25 years of educational excellence. We have worked to promote the College's widely respected reputation, academic integrity and tradition of excellence. We had a lot of fun doing it, too!

This past spring, we kicked off our 1997 Alumni Annual Fund Phonathon with a bang. Using the appeal of our 25th anniversary, we set a new record goal of \$85,000. Through the tireless efforts of alumni, students, College staff and friends, we reached \$83,206 in pledges. By the time this issue of *Invention* hits your mailbox, we should have hit our goal of \$85,000 during the November Phonathon. Watch future issues of *Invention* for the results.



In June, we arranged a tour of Thomas Alva Edison's laboratories and mansion located in northern New Jersey. Following the activities at the famed inventor's facilities, the Alumni Association, in conjunction with the North Jersey Alumni Chapter, hosted an informal dinner dance. Over 60 alumni and their families enjoyed the celebration.

Late in summer '97, we launched a campaign to advertise the availability of College souvenir items. A new brochure is appropriately named "The Bright Idea Shoppe." If you would like a copy, please contact the Office of Alumni Affairs (phone number listed below).

One of the highlights of the 25th Anniversary was the College's annual Gala, where a record number of guests helped celebrate. Captain Howard Butt, vice president for Alumni Member Relations of the Alumni Association, was honored with a Spirit of Edison award, an honor presented annually to community leaders and a graduate of Thomas Edison State College. During his 26 years with the state police, Capt. Butt has made a considerable contribution to the public welfare. We are very proud of his accomplishments and award.

One week later, the College and the alumni celebrated the 25th Anniversary Commencement, held at the site of the first Commencement: Princeton University Chapel. Members of the first graduating class marched side by side with the College's first Master of Science in Management grads and the first inductees of the prestigious national honor society Alpha Sigma Lambda during this historic ceremony.

At our Annual Alumni Meeting, held on Sept. 27 at the College, we awarded two special individuals with recognition plaques. Gail Ann Palatine, vice president of Development of the Alumni Association, was given the award for Outstanding Service to the Association. A 1996 graduate, she has been an active Board member since 1990. Marilyn B. Peterson, a 1991 graduate, was given the Outstanding Professional Achievement Award. She is an analyst, prolific author, editor, lecturer, advisor and manager in the law enforcement field. We are very honored to call Gail Ann and Marilyn alumnae of Thomas Edison State College.

In cooperation with College staff, the Alumni Association has enhanced its capabilities to communicate with alumni members worldwide via the Internet. The Association's home page has been updated to reflect services available from both the College and the Association, as well as with current events of interest to the alumni. An Alumni Virtual Reunion and Chat Room are available by clicking on the Alumni section at <http://www.tesc.edu>. Coming soon: our new Career Services area and Bright Idea Shoppe.

Including this year's graduating class, the Alumni Association is now over 14,000 members strong. We encourage all of you to join us in this year ahead as we begin the next, successful 25 years of educational excellence. Please contact me through the Alumni Association Office at (609) 633-8592, or through the Web site at <http://www.tesc.edu>. We would be delighted to have you join us as we continue to make history at Thomas Edison State College!

Sincerely,

Paul Hays '89

Paul A. Hays, BSAST '89
President
Alumni Association
Board of Directors

Dialing for dollars

During a two-week period last spring, the Alumni Association held its Annual Fund Phonathon. During the 10 sessions, 123 alumni, students, friends of the College and staff volunteered at this important fundraiser. This dedicated effort brings the total in pledges and gifts received as a result of the 1997 Alumni Annual Fund activities to \$83,206.

Gail Palatine '91, co-chair of the 1997 Alumni Annual Fund, stated, "Without the hard work, commitment and enthusiasm of the 27 members of the College staff who contributed their time and effort to this year's Phonathon, this dramatic success would not have been possible."

Watch the next issue of *Invention* for the results of the fall Phonathon, held on Nov. 15, 17 and 18. Of course, whenever your phone rings and you



Hold The Phones! Thomas Edison State College alumni, students, friends of the College and staff volunteers made phone calls coast-to-coast over a two-week period recently from the College's headquarters in the historic Kelsey Building. Pictured from the left are alumni Steve Mandala (BSAST '95), Karla Qazilbasb (B.A. '96) and Paul Hays (BSAST '89), Alumni Association president; and Thomas Edison State College staff Nina Malone, assistant director, Communications and College Relations, and Maureen McGuire, director of Development.

hear it's a Thomas Edison State College volunteer on the other end, Palatine encourages you to field the call and to remember your alma mater. Donations help the College serve adult learners today and tomorrow.

Opportunities to assist with next

year's Phonathon are available — preparations begin in January 1998. Those interested can contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at Thomas Edison State College, (609) 633-8592, 101 W. State St., Trenton, N.J. 08608-1176, <http://www.tesc.edu>.



Lt. Howard Butt (BSHS '95) is caught mid-call during the Phonathon. Efforts made by dedicated volunteers like Howard, who also is the vice president, Alumni Member Relations for the Alumni Association, resulted in raising more than \$75,000.

Still time left to stroll the Walk of Honor

An unexpected opportunity has allowed Thomas Edison State College to extend the deadline for Walk of Honor reservations. There still is time to become a permanent part of the College's history by purchasing a commemorative brick. The Walk of Honor will grace the soon-to-be renovated townhouses, located in the historic buildings next to Thomas Edison State College.

Bricks will be sold to build the Walk of Honor from now through April 1, 1998. Purchasing a brick is a fantastic way to show pride in your degree, honor a special person, memorialize a loved one and make a lasting contribution to the growth of Thomas Edison.

Each brick is \$125 and has room for two lines of copy.

Contact the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs, (609) 984-1588 for more information. Take your place in history through the Thomas Edison Walk of Honor! ❖



Alumni celebrate at Edison site

The Edison Historical Site in West Orange, N.J., was the home to the genesis of many of the thousands of inventions developed by Thomas Alva Edison. This year, it also was home to the Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association's 25th Anniversary celebration.

In conjunction with the North Jersey Chapter, the Alumni Association toured both Edison's laboratories and his mansion located at the historic site. The afternoon's events were capped by a festive dinner-dance that evening at Caldwell College in neighboring Caldwell, N.J. Alumni interested in joining the North Jersey Chapter of the Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association, or in developing a Chapter in their hometowns, can contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at Thomas Edison State College, (609) 633-8592, 101 W. State St., Trenton, N.J. 08608-1176, <http://www.tesc.edu>.

Top: The majestic mansion owned by Thomas Alva Edison provides an impressive backdrop for the Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association's 25th Anniversary celebration. Alumni toured the mansion and the laboratories as part of the day's festivities.

Middle: An early ad for the phonograph, invented by Thomas Alva Edison. Note the price of \$20.

Bottom: A working model of Edison's famous phonograph.

Two of our best

S U C C E S S P R O F I L E S

Gail Ann Palatine

Gail Ann Palatine has gained more than an education from Thomas Edison State College; she has gained a sense of community. Through her selfless dedication in the Alumni Association, Palatine has endeavored to give back to the Institution by promoting the supportive and involved atmosphere that was so much a part of her experience as a student. It is for her commitment that Gail Ann Palatine has been chosen as this year's recipient of the Outstanding Service to the Alumni Association Award.

Palatine began pursuing her education with Thomas Edison State College in 1986, where she earned both her ASAST ('89) and BSAST ('91). Her involvement in the Alumni Association was sparked by an inspirational telephone call recruiting her for the 1990 Phonathon, and her activism has grown ever since. As a result of that first phone call, Palatine became an associate director, and joined the Commencement Committee and the Annual Fund Committee. In 1992, she co-chaired the Annual Fund with current Board president Paul Hays, helping the Alumni Association surpass its target goal for the first time. Since that time, she has continued to serve on the Annual Fund Committee, which reached an all-time annual high of \$81,000 in 1996. She has served on the Board of Directors since 1990, and is presently serving on the Executive Board as the vice president of Development.

The Alumni Association is now 14,000 members strong, but it is the core of active, dedicated Board members that form the backbone of the association. "There is no doubt that my receiving this honor from the TESC Alumni Association is, to put it mildly, an exciting experience for me," Palatine said. "It is difficult for me to imagine that doing what comes naturally is worthy of recognition by my peers. It is especially touching to me as I reflect on those members who have given 110 percent over the years. I am thankful to be able to call them, and all the Board members, friends. I am deeply honored to be able to stand among them to receive their service award."

Palatine works for the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Enforcement in Trenton. As a principal environmental specialist, air and radiation enforcement manager, Palatine interacts with field inspection offices in an advisory capacity, and is involved in the development of regulatory changes and documentation of violation for enforcement programs.

Residents of Lawrenceville, N.J., Palatine and her husband, Richard, have four children: Richard, James, Judith and Jennifer. She is also the proud grandmother of 5-year-old Kristen, 6-month-old Trevor, 6-month-old Erica, and 1-month-old Jonathan.

Gail Ann Palatine's commitment to Thomas Edison State College exemplifies the spirit of support, characteristic of the Alumni Association. We are pleased to honor and recognize Gail Ann Palatine with the Outstanding Service Award for her vision, selfless service and countless contributions to the life of the Association and Thomas Edison State College. ❖



Gail Ann Palatine

INVENTION is published quarterly for the students, alumni and friends of Thomas Edison State College. Please direct any inquiries or suggestions for future articles to the managing editor c/o:

INVENTION

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101 W. State St., Trenton, N.J. 08608-1176
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This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

Marilyn B. Peterson



Marilyn B. Peterson

Marilyn Peterson's portfolio exemplifies the way a motivated and talented individual can utilize the unique characteristics of a Thomas Edison State College education. A 1991 graduate of the College, Marilyn parlayed her years of experience and past coursework into a program culminating in a Bachelor of Science in Human Services degree, majoring in criminal justice. With this as a springboard, she continued on to earn an M.A. in education, with honors, from Seton Hall University.

Marilyn Peterson is this year's recipient of the Alumni Association's Outstanding Professional Achievement Award. "There is no greater feeling than to be acknowledged by my peers," said Peterson.

Throughout the course of her education, Peterson has maintained a high-powered career in law enforcement. She is currently a management analyst with the Economic Crime Bureau, Division of Criminal Justice, New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety. She has also worked as administrative and technical services manager at MAGLOCLEN, and for the Pennsylvania Crime Commission.

In her rise to prominence in her field, Peterson published numerous books, papers and articles, including *Applications in Criminal Analysis: A Sourcebook*, and contributions to *The Handbook of Organized Crime in the United States* and *Contemporary Policing Personnel, Issues and Trends*. She also is a much sought after speaker whose engagements have taken her to conferences and meetings around the world. These include the academy of Criminal Justice Sciences annual conference and the National Criminal Intelligence Service Crime Analysis conference, among many others. In addition, she has taught advanced investigative techniques to hundreds of police, analysts and attorneys through agencies such as the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center and The National Drug Intelligence Center.

Peterson's vocation is also her avocation as she devotes much of her "free" time writing, developing courses and working in the professional associations to which she belongs. She is the current president of the International Association of Law Enforcement Intelligence Analysts (IALEIA), and has been nominated for a second term. She is a Lifetime Certified Criminal Analyst and Certified Fraud Examiner, and was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Society of Certified Criminal Analysts. In addition to her many other awards and positions, Peterson has been active in Thomas Edison State College alumni affairs, having participated in past Phonathons and on the Alumni Association Board.

Peterson and her husband Lind Aitken, a computer programmer in New York City, are residents of Lawrenceville, N.J. Her son, Jon Peterson, works for a telecommunications company in Salem, Mass., and her step-daughter, Michelle Aitken has just finished high school and is continuing her education. Peterson also shares her home with two cats.

Peterson has excelled in all aspects of her discipline, and her contributions outside her job have been broad and generous. Marilyn Peterson's ongoing efforts to further both her professional career and her entire field make her an obvious choice for the Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association Outstanding Professional Achievement Award. ❖

applause...applause...

'84

Ruth Olinsky (B.A.) of Lawrenceville, N.J., had several of her paintings exhibited at the Trenton City

Museum from May 11 through June 23. She also participated last spring in a program commemorating the Holocaust at the Ahavath Israel Synagogue in Trenton, N.J., where she read her poetry to the audience. Her poetry was printed in the synagogue's newsletter "Messenger."

'89

Lea Bayers Rapp (B.A.), an author and journalist, has received a public services journalism

award from the North Jersey Press Club, and an award for Individual Achievement in Print Journalism from the New Jersey Press Women's Association — both for her September 1996 education cover story for New Jersey Monthly magazine. "Working with education issues is a major responsibility that I undertake with great care," noted Rapp, who has previously been awarded nation recognition for her work in this area. The article is a result of extensive research that encompassed national and state educational data, and contact with over 300 educators and educational administrators on the state and national level.

'90

Michael T. Rossler (BSAST) of Washington, D.C., received a Master of Science degree in

environmental sciences and policy from the Johns Hopkins University in May 1997, graduating with a 4.0 GPA. He is a manager of Environmental Programs for the Edison Electric Institute and a registered Radiation Protection Technologist.

'92

Dr. William D. Wagoner (BSHS), director of Planning and Emergency Management in

Livingston County, Mich., received the 1997 American Planning Association Divisions Council Achievement Award for the preparation of the City Planning & Management Division Special Edition Journal. The journal featured articles by Andrew Cuomo, secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; Harvey Gantt, chair of the National Capital Planning commission; and Dr. Wagoner, City Planning & Management Division chair and journal editor. Dr. Wagoner's article was titled "Strategic Leadership."

'93

Navy Chief Petty Officer George G. Vergos recently reported for duty with the aircraft carrier Precommissioning Unit Harry S. Truman based at Newport News, Va. A 1982 graduate of Piscataway High School in Piscataway, N.J., Vergos joined the Navy in February 1985.

'94

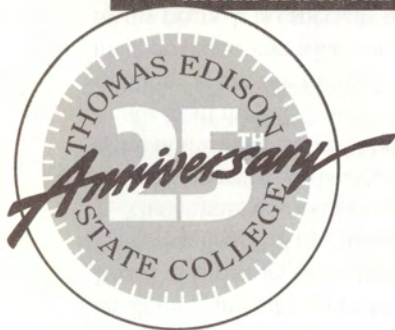
Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Timothy W. Wood (ASAST) recently received the navy and Marine

Corps Achievement Medal and was named Sailor of the Year while serving aboard the submarine USS Augusta, homeported in Groton, Conn. Wood was recognized for his outstanding achievement while serving as electrical department manager and was singled out for the award because of his superb initiative and contribution in helping the command fulfill its mission. A 1986 graduate of Glencoe High School in Glencoe, Ala., Wood joined the Navy in November 1986.

Dale Taylor (B.A.) has had his first book, *A Writer's Guide to Everyday Life in Colonial America 1607-1783*, published by Writer's Digest Press of Cincinnati, Ohio. The volume, one of a series of guides for writers covering different historical periods, is a comprehensive social history with a focus on concepts and information useful to writers, beginning historians and non-historians. ❖

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NEWSLETTER OF THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE

FALL/WINTER 1997



They made history when they received their degrees 25 years ago as the first graduating class of Thomas Edison State College. A quarter century later, they entered the record books again when they took part in the 1997 Commencement along with the first Master of Science in Management grads and the first inductees into Alpha Sigma Lambda, a national honor society for adult learners.

Pictured behind the banner are: George Kingston of Mt. Holly, N.J.; Barbara Klein of Somerset, N.J.; Pat Danielson of Lambertville, N.J.; and Paul Sniffer of Rumson, N.J. The back row includes Frank Wagner of Little Egg Harbor, N.J. and Peter E. Kennedy of Hackensack, N.J. ♦

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