

InteRSEction

“Fortifying an Independent RSE” Capital Campaign Launches with nearly \$2 Million in Alumni Commitments

RSE announced the “Fortifying an Independent RSE” capital fundraising campaign during our Fall Society meeting on October 14. Our campaign goals are to raise \$5 million to renovate / restore the RSE Clubhouse with 100% participation by our alumni. All RSE alumni received an announcement letter and Campaign Brochure in the mail as well as via email. If you have yet to read the Campaign Brochure, please visit rse.org/campaign now to learn more. The brochure details RSE’s new operating model, the case for support, our planned use of funds, and more.

Our Capital Campaign Committee officially embarked on this effort in November 2022. Our primary goal is to support the revitalized RSE as it re-establishes a presence on campus, recruits new student members, and keeps the legacy of the Society alive in the Clubhouse for generations to come. There is still major work to be done at 1501 Sage Ave, to make our vision for the future of RSE a reality. We can only accomplish this goal with your support!

Since we began a year ago, the Capital Campaign Committee has been meeting at least twice weekly to keep the forward momentum of the fundraising effort going. We would like to thank those alumni who have pledged their early support to the campaign, allowing us to begin the public phase with nearly \$2 million in pledges and gifts. Thanks to their generosity, we were able to begin renovating the House to accommodate our new members.

In order for the campaign to be a success, RSE needs each of you, our loyal alumni, to make the best stretch pledge you are capable of making. Larger pledges can be paid in installments over 3-5 years, and there are options to make your gift tax-deductible through The RSE Foundation. To make a pledge to the campaign effort today, visit bit.ly/rse-pledge.

If you would like to assist with the campaign effort in a fun way that allows you to reconnect with classmates, consider becoming a campaign volunteer. We are seeking alumni from all decades to serve as “Era Captains” who will reach out to friends from their generation about the campaign. For more information, fill out the interest form at bit.ly/rse-captain.

We look forward to reconnecting personally with each of you as the campaign moves forward. We will keep alumni informed of our progress through email and mail communications in addition to personal outreach from volunteers. We are making an effort to arrange era reunions in areas where alumni are clustered. If you’re interested in arranging a reunion event for your RSE friends, email us at RSE.Update@rse.org for additional information.

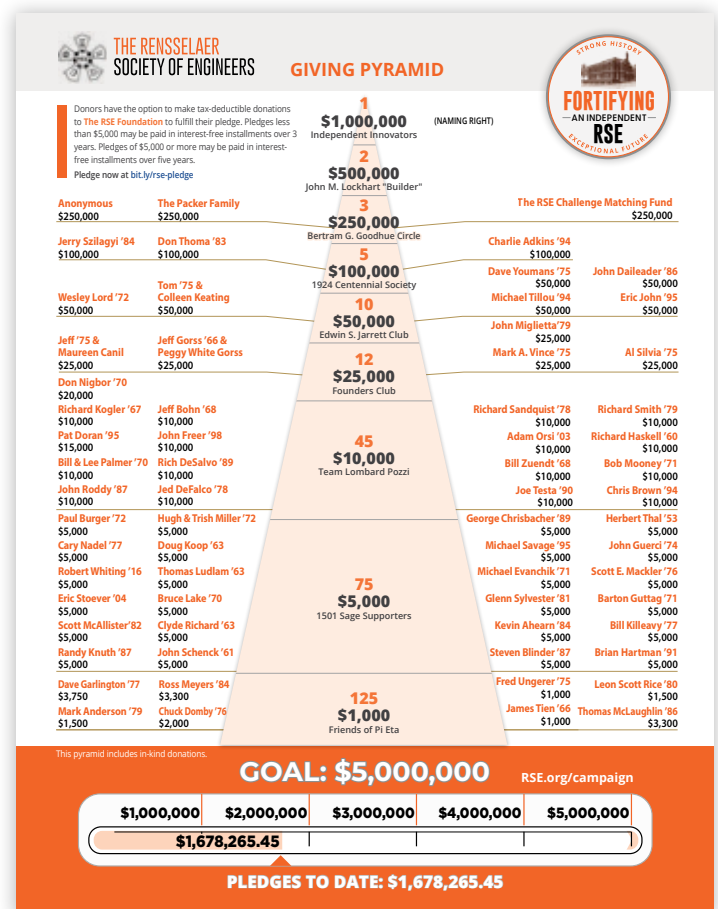
TSIMS

Eric M. John '95

RSE Capital Campaign Co-Chair



FORTIFYING AN INDEPENDENT RSE
STRONG HISTORY, EXCEPTIONAL FUTURE



RPI Administration is All In on RSEi!

Rensselaer Society of Engineering Innovation (RSEi) is the students' name for the new, on-campus RSE organization

The initial 15 RSEi student members have been very active on campus and the administration and faculty are in full support of the reintroduction of RSEi. RSEi has been participating in the Fraternity and Sorority Commons (FSC) activities as a professional fraternity.

The new RSEi members receive support from the administration via regular meetings with the FSC Associate Dean Ethan Stubbs as well as Assistant Deans Mel Daley and Lezlie Blair.

President Marty Schmidt continues to voice his support for RSEi. Marty is leading an effort he calls “translation”, the movement of technology from the lab into real life applications. A big tenet of this is entrepreneurship. RSEi is filling this space on campus, and Marty brings RSE up during many of his regional events.

Professor Clint Ballinger, the RSEi faculty advisor has been actively supporting the student organization by providing guidance to the leadership, giving lectures on the innovation/entrepreneurial process, and by holding individual office hours with the students.

Support has been coming from other areas within the Institute. Michael Wager of the Center for Career and Professional Development has offered his support to students with their career development. Charlie Potts, the Director of the Rensselaer Union, has been a strong advocate and advisor to RSEi.

The alumni and students will continue working with a supportive RPI Administration to develop a mutually beneficial relationship for an independent RSE.

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE RSE NETWORK – 800 STRONG!

Following the Fall Society meeting, the student members had an opportunity to learn about the power of networking and the RSE network. We all know the importance of networking in our careers, but we also may remember how intimidating it is when you are first starting out. The students have been using their networking skills as they recruit new members. (There are 7 new members who have recently completed the education process.)

We held a professional networking workshop with the student members and alumni. The workshop opened with a talk about the importance of networking for career development as well as an overview of basic networking skills. The students came prepared with a 60-second elevator pitch about themselves, which they used to practice their skills in networking “speed dating” sessions with alumni.

It was amazing to see the improvement in the elevator pitch after the students were able to practice it 10+ times. More importantly, the students were able to learn about themselves and network with alumni as they begin their search for internships and full-time jobs. We will be setting up a more structured networking and mentoring program between alumni and students shortly, so please be on the lookout for future events.

TSIMS

Don Thoma '83



We're Back Baby!

The RSE Reintroduction to Campus Goes Smoothly.

The initial RSEi members have 1501 Sage Ave up and running. With recently renovated rooms and a lot of preparations in the rest of the House, student members moved into the Clubhouse for the first time since 2020. We have 12 members living in the building and an additional 3 living out. The student leadership team has been established and is guiding the RSEi reintroduction to campus. The first week was consumed by a number of activities including an RSEi volleyball tournament for the incoming class, the FSC Grill and Greet, and the RPI Activities Fair.

The student members are conducting the RSEi Entrepreneurship Series. This lecture series focuses on starting a new venture. Professor Clint Ballinger, our faculty advisor, and our alumni advisors have been helping the students develop the plan for the semester.

The first speaker was **Rich Silverman '77**, who on September 9th provided an overview of the trials and tribulations of starting a new business. The event was well attended, and Rich reported that we have a great group of organized and motivated student members.

The students then conducted a series of deep dives into different aspects of starting a business. Clint Ballinger held a lecture on idea development and market research on September 16th. **Don Thoma '83** and **John Freer '97** delivered a lecture regarding business plan development and financing on September 28th. In addition, the students held an alumni networking event at the House right after the RSE Society Meeting on October 14th. (See Networking Article.) It was a great opportunity for the new RSEi members to learn important career skills and for the alumni to share their experiences.

Future lectures will include product creation and women entrepreneurs. We have a number of alumni and outside guests who will be speaking with the students. If you have some insights you would like to share as part of this series, please let me know.

The students are also planning a number of fun events that will help them recruit the next class of members. Seven new members have completed the new member education process and were recently initiated. Needless to say, this all takes a lot of work and I would like to thank the student leaders and the alumni who have been helping to provide guidance and support to the reintroduction. More to come...

TSIMS,

Don Thoma '83



Several members of the classes of the 1980s got together in northern New Jersey at the end of September to catch up, talk about the future of the House, and play a round of golf. While the record setting rains put the kibosh on being able to play at the great course in Ridgewood that an alumnus had arranged, the group still made good use of their time.

Several attended the Tedeschi Trucks concert and others visited the Yogi Berra Museum in Montclair and then spent some time hitting balls at Topgolf. The high point of the day was catching up for an evening of good food, an update on the Society's projects, and some great stories at the Capital Grille. Who knew that **John Daileader '86** spent so much time in Sutter's basement?! John surprised everyone by stepping up and paying the substantial bill for the night, which was appreciated by all.

Those attendees who did not know of the new direction of our organization were impressed with the significant forward progress being made to ensure the long-term future of RSE. Attending the event were: **Dave Hall '80**, **Billy Levine '83**, **Ross Meyers '84**, **Glenn Sylvester '81**, **Kevin Ahearn '84**, **John Daileader '86**, **Rick Schutte '85**, **Steve Blinder '87**, **John Roddy '87**, and **Don Thoma '83**. If you would like to schedule a similar event for your era, please contact Don Thoma or John Roddy.



Don Thoma '83, John Roddy '87, Glen Sylvester '81, Kevin Ahearn '84 and Steve Blinder '87 at the Yogi Berra Museum

RSEi GETS INTRODUCED TO RPI!

Update from the Student Members

by **Ayaan Ahmad '26**, **Jonathan Trieloff '25**, **Lucas Masotti '26**

In our first full semester back on campus, we had the opportunity to host a variety of speakers from among the RSE alumni. From starting a business to Airstreaming to National Parks, we have enjoyed hearing about a diverse range of experiences. The engagement and dedication of the alumni and student members alike is proof that RSEi has a special role on campus. Our goal is to provide a safe environment and support the development of well-rounded, successful leaders in science, technology, architecture, and business. The collective engagement of the alumni has played a central part in a successful start to the semester.

We began the school year with a fun, surprisingly competitive volleyball tournament. Using common college event advertising technique (i.e. poster), the turnout for the event was huge. Not only did this make for a great and lively event, but it also showed us that if we keep up this momentum, it could transport us to the RSEi future we desire.

We did just that, laying out the RSEi Entrepreneurship Series. This series of lectures describes various aspects of starting a new venture. Professor Clint Ballinger, our faculty advisor, and our alumni advisors have been helping outline the plan for the semester. The first speaker was **Rich Silverman '77**, who on September 9th provided an overview of the trials and tribulations of starting a new business. This event was well attended, and Rich reported to the alumni about the “great group of organized and motivated student members” (Not to toot our own horn, of course).

Moreover, at the time of writing this article, this past weekend was RPI's alumni homecoming. Taking advantage of the RSE alumni on campus for the weekend, we held an Alumni Networking event. RSEi members and associate members had one-on-one professional interviews with alumni, discussing topics that ranged from each other's interests to holding mock sessions on how to successfully talk to potential employers. This event provided a prime example to the associate members that were inducted the past week, of how RSEi will benefit them.

We ended the homecoming weekend with an informational, but also entertaining, talk from **Gail Worthington '75** and **Mark Vince '75**. They described their experiences exploring the United States in a trailer, and how to be prepared for travel. Gail, with the help of **Marcy Sushynski '27**, **Paul Lea '26** and **Jonathan Trieloff '25**, baked some delicious apple pie for all in attendance. It was the perfect ending to a long, but eventful weekend.

As more and more students at RPI hear about RSEi, all the members are able to see their hard work finally come to fruition. Even though there is a lot more work to be done for us to achieve our goal, with the committed alumni and students that we have, each day we are getting closer and closer.



RSEi Welcome Volleyball Event (photos by **Marcella Sushynski '27**)



Don Thoma '83 and **John Freer '98** Business Seminar (photo by **Lucas Masotti '26**)



Alumni Weekend (photo by **Mark Vince '75**)



Air Streaming (photo by **Ayaan Ahmad '26**)

SEVEN NEW MEMBERS INITIATED

Seven new members were initiated in November. The Student Members prepared a dinner as part of the welcome for these new members. This group includes **Garrett Gagnon '22**, a PhD student, whose grandfather, **Richard Gagnon '54** was an RSE member.

Garrett Gagnon '22
Glastonbury, CT
PhD Computer Engineering

Jade Walak '27
Raleigh, NC
Computer Science

Junning Sun '27
Windsor, Ontario
Industrial Engineering

Phillipee Tjaye '27
Leesburg, VA
Aerospace Engineering

Maron Allis '27
Minneapolis, MN
Industrial Engineering

Liam Beresford '26
Springfield, PA
Computer Science

Trey Penman '27
Erie, CO
Nuclear Engineering



2022-2023 HONOR ROLL

Thank you to our generous donors last year (July 2022 – June 2023)

Jarrett Society \$1,501+

Clyde Richard 1963
Wesley Lord 1972
Thomas Keating 1975
David Youmans 1975
David Garlington 1977
Jed DeFalco 1978
Richard Packer 1979
Donald Thoma 1983
Jerry Szilagyi 1984
Joseph Testa 1990
Eric John 1995
Todd Kornely 1996

Lockhart Society \$1000 - \$1500

Edward Curran 1964
James Tien 1966
John Trolle 1966
Jeff Bohn 1968
Andrew Cacossa 1970
Paul Burger 1972
Hugh Miller Jr. 1972
Jeffrey Canil 1975
Richard Sandquist 1978
Joseph A. Reagan Jr. 1979
Kevin Ahearn 1984
Thomas McLaughlin 1986
Christopher Brown 1994
Matthew Schumaker 2000

Presidents Association \$500 - \$999

Gail Brichford 1951
Robert Pavan 1951
Thomas McCarty 1952
Ted Baglin 1955
Eugene Young 1961
Paul Possemato 1967
William Zuendt 1968
Harry Palmer Jr. 1970
Barton Guttag 1971
John Miglietta 1979
Richard Smith 1979
John Roddy 1987
Brian Hartman 1991
Chris Rainieri 2001
Adam Orsi 2003

Pi Eta Society \$300 - \$499

Roger Whiteley 1952
Herbert Thal Jr. 1953
George Reschke 1954
Robert Robisch 1954
Edwin Wood Sr. 1957
Jeffrey Gorss 1966
Richard Kogler 1967
Robert Mooney Ph.D. 1971
David Menzer 1975
Matthew Waite 1975
Cary Nadel 1977
James Williams 1977
William DeVos 1978
Mark Anderson 1979

Burton Carpenter 1985
Ted Rawson 1986
Charles Adkins Jr. 1994
Michael Savage 1995
Richard J. Gonyea 1999

1866 Club \$76 - \$299

Fred Phillips 1951
Joseph Fidd 1956
Daniel Schneid 1957
Donald Galias 1958
Douglas Bowden 1959
Charles Vincelette 1959
Richard Bohlin 1960
Richard Haskell 1960
John Schenck MD 1961
Henry Cassi 1962
Douglas Koop 1963
Thomas Ludlam 1963
Peter Kosche 1964
Gordy Van Guilder 1965
Jeffrey Ackerson 1966
George Aronstamm 1966
Stephen Shelley 1966
William Bonadies 1967
Bennett Sorensen 1968
Kenneth Carpenter 1969
John Crandall 1969
Lawrence Kissko 1970
Donald Nigbor 1970
Joseph Zahka 1970
Otto Zamek 1970
Michael Evanchik 1971

Kenneth Nowack 1971
Kalle Kontson 1972
James Lampella 1972
Kenneth Pedone 1972
Steven Sudigala 1973
Carsten Floess 1974
John Guerci 1974
Martin Tusim 1974
Alan Silvia 1975
Timothy True 1975
David Bryden 1976
William Killeavy 1977
Richard Silverman 1977
Stuart Needleman 1980
L. Scott Rice 1980
Arthur Schultheiss 1980
Andrew Brockway 1981
Richard Bussey 1981
Stephen Davis 1981
Lee Smith 1982
Paul Ferioli 1983
George Cumming 1986
John A. Porada 1986
Steven Blinder 1987
Joshua Damesek 1987
Mark Schwaneckamp 1990
Dan Vinocour 1990
Eric Cohen 1993
Jeroen Valensa 1993
Philip Tong 2003
Jason Penny 2004
Alexander Mena 2012

Regular Alumni Membership \$75

Stephen Bradley 1960
Robert W. Ruckstuhl 1960
James Hutton 1962
Roger McAvoy 1966
Theodore Michelsen 1967
Thomas Wharton 1969
Richard Junker 1971
John Casana 1972
Edward H. Herger 1972
Michael Wachur 1973
Mitchell E. Carmody 1976
William Dean Jr. 1976
Scott Mackler 1976
Michael D'Eufemia 1989
Damon Wagner 1996
Gregory Baker 1998
Mark Beasman Jr 2014
Nicholas Umstatt 2017

Corporate Match Donations

Amazon Smile
Broadcom
Disney
Johnson & Johnson
Teradyne
William A. Hazel, Inc.



100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION FOR 1501 SAGE AVE

2024 is the 100th birthday for the 1501 Sage Ave Clubhouse. A full weekend event is planned for September 27-29, 2024. Please plan to attend this celebration of our National Historic Place. More details to follow via mail and at rse.org/100th/

PALLADIUM WINDOW RENOVATION



Al Silvia '75 and **John Freer '98** spent 2 days this summer removing years of paint from the palladium window. Their work revealed some details that had been hidden by layers of paint. After priming the wood, a professional window company was used to replace some cracked glass and reglaze the entire window. Great job Al and John!

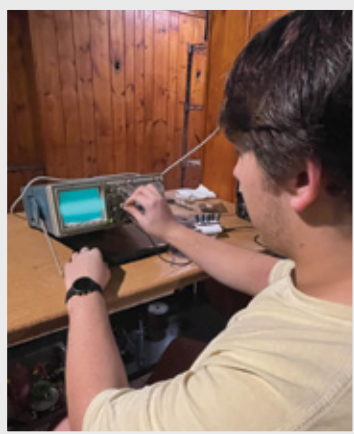


Nominations for 2024 RSE Trustee positions open

The biennial RSE Trustee Elections are scheduled for April 2024. Candidates for the various Trustees positions are now being solicited. We are seeking new candidates to be active and involved members of the board as our organization continues to transition and adapt to the ever-changing campus environment. For further information, please contact **Eric Stoever '04** at eric.c.stoever@gmail.com or 518-330-1986.

All RSE alumni are eligible for these positions. You can nominate yourself! As a reminder, we are also always looking for alumni to be involved in a variety of efforts in non-board positions, especially alumni living in the Troy area. As in past years, we are planning to conduct the election by both mail-in and electronic ballot. Please be sure your email address is up to date at www.rse.org (login, then click Edit Info). More details to follow.

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS



Lucas Masotti '26 works on Electrical Engineering projects in the old "Party Room" which is now part of a developing workshop.



70th Anniversary

When RSE alumnus **Tom McCarty '52** was a senior, one of his friends asked if he might join him at a Tea Dance. He hadn't heard of this event before, but agreed to go.

While standing around at the dance, Tom said he saw a pretty girl that he hadn't seen before. He turned to his friend, who was a star RPI baseball player, and said, 'Look at that pretty girl over there, you should ask her to dance'. His friend replied, 'You saw her first, so you should ask her'.

Tom did and the girl said yes. It was an instant connection for them both. They were married not long after and the rest is history.

Tom and Mary McCarty '52 have made a significant contribution to the Capital Campaign.

Tom and Mary McCarty's 70th anniversary renewal of vows at Holy Cross RC Church, LasCruces, NM September 2022