

Navigation

Curriculum Information

[Advising Information](#)

[Curriculum Information](#)

[Concentrations](#)

[Course Schedules](#)

[Degree Information](#)

News & Activities

[Clubs](#)

[News & Features](#)

[Newsletters](#)

Resources & Opportunities

[Faculty and Office Hours](#)

[Career Paths](#)

[Resource Links](#)

[Alumni Spotlight](#)

[Internships & Senior Project](#)

[Scholarships](#)

Listening to Students

[College Based Fees](#)

[RPTA Department](#) > [Fall 2012 Newsletter](#)

Fall 2012 Newsletter

Live It, Protect It, Explore It!



[View all Newsletters](#)

Navigation:

[Welcome](#) • [Jacobs Legacy](#) • [Quiz Bowl](#) • [NRPA Awards](#) • [Fisher Scholarship](#) • [Dinner & Auction](#) • [Midnight Fun Run](#) • [David Smith](#) • [Tour de Pink](#) • [First Professional Conference](#) • [RPTA 325 in the Water](#) • [Santa Barbara Bowl](#) • [RPTA Club](#) • [Rho Phi Lambda](#) • [New Jobs Blog](#) • [Jacobs Interview](#) • [Meet the Staff](#) • [Donate](#)

FROM MY LITTLE WOODEN DESK...

By: *Dr. Bill Hendricks, Department Head*

Wow! This has been one incredible fall quarter. We started the academic year off with a new crop of students who met the most rigorous admission standards in the 36-year history of the program. We have also reached an all-time high of 320 undergraduate students.

In this edition of *The Report* you will read about many other fall quarter highlights including the NRPA Academic Quiz Bowl Championship in Anaheim, numerous honors for our Rho Phi Lambda Chapter and alumna Amy Lepp, and examples of our faculty pushing the envelope for innovation and creativity to provide “learn by doing” educational experiences for our students. Moreover, our alumni continue to be shining stars! RPTA alumnus David Smith, President of Angels RBI, shares his successes and his roots in the major. We are also proud to announce the Jodi Hamp Fisher Scholarship Endowment created by Jodi’s friends and family in her memory. [Read more.](#)



[↩ back to top](#)

LEAVING A LEGACY, A FAREWELL TO

ADDITIONAL LINKS

[Contact Information](#)

[Advisory Council](#)

[Graduate Program](#)

[How to Enroll](#)

[Request Info](#)

[Annual Career Fair - Organizational Registration](#)

[Where in the world is RPTA?](#)

[Make a Donation](#)



NEWS & EVENTS

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ONE OF THE VERY BEST

By *Anthonia Edgren (RPTA '13), Editor, The Report*

In a college career, students sometimes find those select professors that inspire them to challenge themselves and reach for their full potential - ones that they regard as mentors and inspirations. The Cal Poly RPTA department is comprised of professors who do just that, but none more so than Professor Jeffrey Jacobs. Dr. Jacobs doesn't just offer career advice or helpful office hours; he inspires his students to follow their dreams, to live their best life, and to wholeheartedly help others.



Most students in the department have had the privilege to have Dr. Jacobs as a professor at least once, usually in RPTA 205 or in RPTA 360. But even those who have not had him have heard what an amazing person and professor he is. From the charismatic way that Dr. Jacobs enters a classroom, to his genuine interest in your well being, class performance, and questions. From his style of teaching that makes one feel comfortable and challenged all at the same time, to the passion he has for life that he demonstrates in everything he does. Dr. Jacobs is a legend and an inspiration. [Read more.](#)

⬆ back to top

BACK TO THE WINNER'S CIRCLE: RPTA CAPTURES SECOND NATIONAL QUIZ BOWL TITLE IN THREE YEARS

By *Kevin Mould (RPTA '14), Staff Writer*

In addition to capturing several prestigious awards (read below), Cal Poly RPTA further cemented its place on the national stage by winning its second Academic Quiz Bowl title in three years on October 17, 2012 at the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Annual Congress in Anaheim. The team, consisting of Jamie Dehn (captain), Jordaine McGinnity, Kevin Mould, and Hayley De Carolis (alternate) put on a dominant performance at the event that included four other teams: Cal State Long Beach, Fresno State, Texas A&M, and Brigham Young University (2011's national champion).

Congress in Anaheim. [Read more](#)

RPTA alumna Amy Lepp and RPTA's chapter of Rho Phi Lambda, the major's honors society, received awards at the 2012 NRPA Annual Congress in Anaheim. [Read more](#)

Dr. Bill Hendricks was named one of two 2011-2012 Distinguished Scholarship Award winners. Hendricks was honored with a reception in May 2012 and will be recognized again at both commencement in June 2012 and convocation in September 2012. [Read more](#)



See the full press release here:
http://calpolynews.calpoly.edu/news_releases/2012/November/quizbowlteam.html

[↩ back to top](#)

RPTA ALUMNA AND HONORS SOCIETY WIN TOP AWARDS AT NATIONAL CONFERENCE

By Dr. Brian Greenwood, Associate Professor

The Quiz Bowl National Title was not the only award that Cal Poly RPTA received at the 2012 NRPA Annual Congress in Anaheim. The department continued to make quite an impression in winning three separate awards.



Amy Lepp, who graduated in 2012 with a degree in RPTA, was awarded the Rho Phi Lambda Outstanding Undergraduate Student Scholarly Activity Award, and Cal Poly's Alpha Mu Chapter of Rho Phi Lambda, the academic discipline's honors society,

received the Chapter Incentive Award. Moreover, Cal Poly's Alpha Mu Chapter received the 2012 NRPA Outstanding Student Club Award. [Read more.](#)

[↗ back to top](#)

RPTA SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT ESTABLISHED IN ALUMNA JODI HAMP FISHER'S NAME

Family and friends of Cal Poly alumna Jodi Hamp Fisher have created a scholarship endowment in her memory. In honor of the 1997 Recreation, Parks, & Tourism Administration grad, who died in March after battling cancer, the scholarship will support the educational costs of students majoring in RPTA. Preference will be given to students with a career interest in the outdoors.



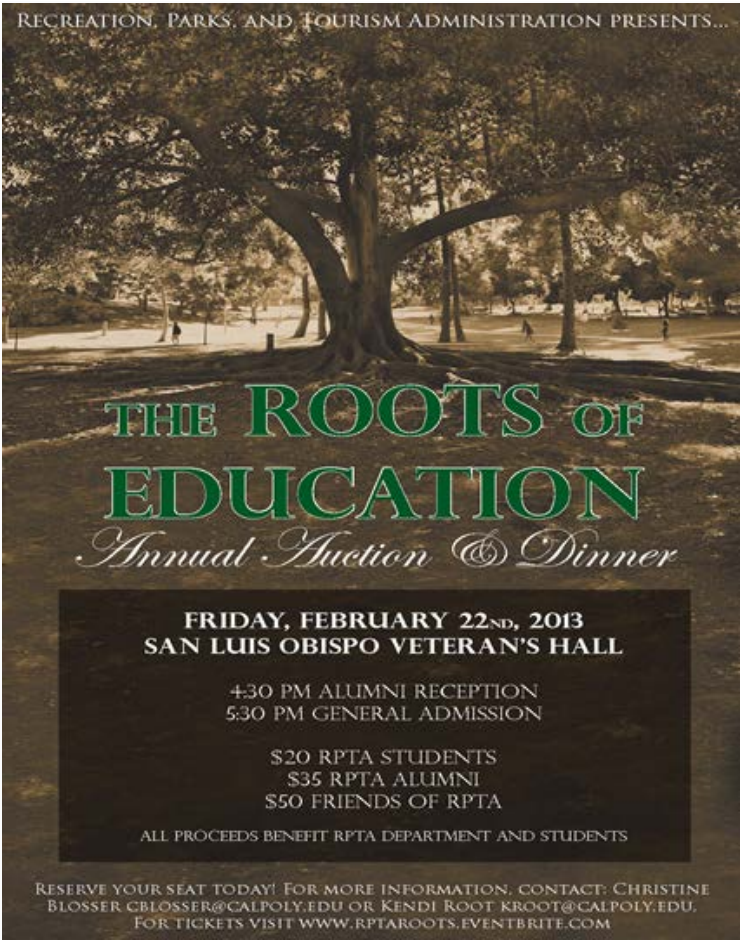
Fisher is known for giving out free ice cream in Cayucos on her 44th birthday, hugging President Obama at the airport in San Francisco, and appearing on the Ellen DeGeneres show – all items on her "fun list" as she fought inoperable cancer. Those who want to join Fisher's family and friends in recognizing her inspirational legacy and contributions to others, are asked to add their support. [Read more and link to donation.](#)

[↗ back to top](#)

RPTA'S ANNUAL DINNER AND AUCTION: "THE ROOTS OF EDUCATION"

By Hannah Baker (RPTA '13), Staff Writer

The annual RPTA dinner and auction is in the works to be an incredible experience for students, alumni, parents, and RPTA family alike! With a vintage theme of *The Roots of Education*, the event looks to be as classy and enjoyable as ever. The auction planning committee has been working long and hard each week, so one can only imagine what great efforts they have put into this much anticipated department fundraiser.



Not only does the auction portray what an amazing RPTA program we have at Cal Poly, but it opens the doors for others to donate and benefits RPTA students and the department. The planning committee hopes to appeal to as many people as possible with a final goal of raising around \$25,000. The committee had its preliminary meetings in early March to discuss what they hoped the auction would look like and how the theme would be incorporated. Some brainstorming took place over summer as well, but the bulk of the planning and finalization of the event was determined over fall. [Read more.](#)

[⬅ back to to](#)

RPTA "GETS ITS GLOW ON!"

By Hannah Baker (RPTA '13), Staff Writer

"Get Your Glow On" was the ongoing slogan for this year's Cal Poly Midnight 5K Fun Run. A group of nine students from Dr. Goldenberg's RPTA 210 class worked closely with the Special Olympics of San Luis Obispo County to put on the 5th annual event. With an 80's theme in place, there were volunteers and runners dressed to impress and supporting a good cause at the same time!



The process of creating the fun run started as soon as Fall Quarter began. Weekly meetings took place at the Special Olympics office with the students and the Special Olympics supervisors. Each student was involved in planning different aspects of the event such as registration, promotion, pre/post race activities, and sponsorship. [Read more.](#)

↩ back to top

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: DAVID SMITH SWITCH TO RPTA WAS RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

By Laurel Thomson (RPTA '15), Staff Writer

David Smith (RPTA '97), president of the Los Angeles Angels' RBI (Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities) program, found his recipe for success with Cal Poly's RPTA program. When he first matriculated to Cal Poly, Smith was an Engineering Technology major. Soon thereafter, Engineering Technology was cut as a major due to budget issues, and Smith found himself looking for a home. During his first quarter at Cal Poly, he worked as a Basketball official for Recreational Sports. His supervisor was an RPTA senior, which is where he first learned of the RPTA major. When his major was cut, Smith officially transferred into RPTA and declared sport management as his emphasis area. Smith continued to work for Recreational Sports and later went to become an Intramural Sports Supervisor. He claimed that because he was an athlete "sports and recreation [were] in [his] DNA." This made RPTA a perfect fit for him. [Read more.](#)



↩ back to top

GOLDENBERG BIKES FOR A CAUSE IN TOUR DE PINK

By Laurel Thomson (RPTA '15), Staff Writer

On October 12, 2012, Dr. Marni Goldenberg began what she refers to as "the most intense physical thing I've ever done." Dr. Goldenberg participated in

the Tour De Pink, a nearly 200-mile long bike ride along the west coast of California for the Young Survival Coalition (YSC).



The YSC is a non-profit organization dedicated to the issues faced by those who are diagnosed with breast cancer under age 40. The organization makes it their goal to let young women with breast cancer know that they are not alone, and to raise awareness for their cause. In order to participate, Dr. Goldenberg had to raise a minimum of \$2,500, which she did within a couple of weeks. She began the Tour De Pink on October 12, at Giant Bikes, one of the bike ride's sponsors, in Thousand Oaks, California. On the first day, she rode 68 miles to Manhattan Beach, and then another 71 miles down the coast to Dana Point on day 2. On her final day of Tour De Pink, Dr. Goldenberg rode the last 55 miles of the bike ride to the Oakley headquarters, another one of the ride's sponsors, in Foothill Ranch. [Read more.](#)

[↗ back to top](#)

REFLECTIONS ON MY FIRST PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE

By Kevin Mould (RPTA '14), Staff Writer



When I first accepted my position on the Quiz Bowl team last spring, I wasn't quite sure what to expect. I guess that this is true for most things in the sense that other people can tell you about a place or experience all they want, but you can never truly know until you've done it yourself. It was in this position that I found myself over the summer as I prepared, and even more so in

the fall as the date of the 2012 NRPA Congress rapidly approached. I knew plenty of exhibitors were going to be there, and that our department faculty were going to give presentations, but I still wondered: How was everything going to look? What kind of people would I encounter? What will the other Quiz Bowl Teams be like? [Read more.](#)

[↗ back to top](#)

RPTA 325 DIVES "HEAD FIRST" INTO WATER-BASED OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP

By Anthonia Edgren (RPTA '13), Editor, The Report

The RPTA department offers many classes that make other Cal Poly students jealous, one of those being RPTA 325: Water-Based Outdoor and Adventure Leadership. This quarter, RPTA 325 was all about facilitating and fostering water-based outdoor leadership skills both in and outside of the



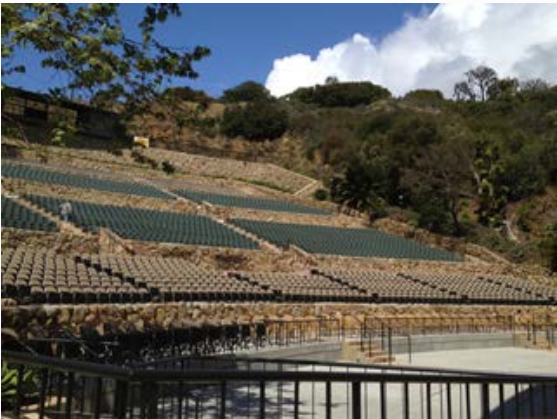
classroom. Under the guidance of Dr. Goldenberg, the class had the task of planning a field trip down to the very last detail, and executing it on a weekend excursion. [Read more.](#)

[⬆ back to top](#)

DID SOMEBODY SAY, "FIELD TRIP!"?

AN RPTA 420 EXCURSION TO THE SANTA BARBARA BOWL

By Hannah Baker (RPTA '13), Staff Writer



Imagine yourself standing center stage, looking out onto a beautiful venue full of natural beauty and history. This vision became reality for students in Professor Kendi Root's RPTA 420 class this past Fall Quarter. As a recurring field trip, the class visited the Santa Barbara Bowl to learn the ins and outs of

promoting and hosting an event. As a mid-size venue in a beautiful picturesque location, the Santa Barbara Bowl has hosted countless musical artists including rock, folk, jazz, orchestra, and symphony performances. Students of RPTA 420 were lucky enough to gain full exposure to this premier concert venue. [Read more.](#)

[⬆ back to top](#)

RPTA CLUB: "FALL"ing INTO ACTION!

By Laurel Thomson (RPTA '15), Staff Writer

Fall quarter has been a busy one full of friends, food, and fun for the RPTA club! Under the leadership of President Brittany Glasnow ('13) and Vice President Kiefer Reischl ('14), the RPTA club has been hard at working

recruiting new members and getting involved in the recreation, parks, and tourism field. Members volunteered at the Morro Bay Harbor Festival as they have in years past. Club members had the opportunity to meet great people and help a local community host an incredible event! [Read more.](#)



[⬆ back to top](#)

RHO PHI LAMBDA DAZZLES IN FALL

By Anthonia Edgren (RPTA '13), Editor, The Report

Rho Phi Lambda, RPTA's honors society, is consistently recognized for reinforcing academic commitment and success and has been known for its highly anticipated career fair each winter. As mentioned above, Rho Phi Lambda has taken that success to a new level in being named the 2012 NRPA Outstanding Student Club. This award was made possible because of Rho Phi's dedication to developing future industry leaders and providing students with industry and professional opportunities as demonstrated by their annual career fairs.



Rho Phi Lambda also initiated eight new members on November 14th, 2012. The initiation and festivities were held at the Granada Hotel and Bistro in Downtown San Luis Obispo. Attendees enjoyed a quaint candlelit atmosphere accompanied by delicious hors d'oeuvres and a celebration of their dedication to scholarship, leadership and service. [Read more.](#)

[⬆ back to top](#)

LOOKING FOR A JOB, INTERNSHIP, OR VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE? CHECK OUT RPTA'S NEW JOBS BLOG

By: Dr. Bill Hendricks, Department Head

We have changed our process of notifying students and alumni about job, internship, and volunteer opportunities in the recreation, parks, and tourism industries. Instead of email messages we will now post announcements on a blog site. This will allow everyone to access postings at their convenience and in one place.

For current and future opportunities please use the new Cal Poly RPTA Jobs blog at: <http://calpolyrptajobs.blogspot.com/>

If you are representing an organization looking to hire interns and employees, you can still email opportunities to one of the faculty, and we will gladly forward RPTA major and career relevant announcements to the blog for posting.

We trust that you will find this new resource beneficial and efficient. If you have not already done so, I would also recommend that you "like" our new Facebook Community page at <http://www.facebook.com/CalPolyRpta>. The Cal Poly RPTA Facebook Community page now has themed daily messages. Check it out!

[⬆ back to top](#)

PARTING WORDS FROM DR. JACOBS

By Anthonia Edgren (RPTA '13), Editor, The Report

As Dr. Jacobs prepared for his new adventure in Michigan as the Executive Director of Camp Henry, I sat down with him for an interview so that he could share some final thoughts.



Q: What will you miss most?

"The thing I will miss most about Cal Poly is the students. I never had a favorite class, the subject didn't matter. It was the 10 weeks that I got to spend with students, learning and getting to know them that I enjoyed."

Q: What would you want to be remembered for?

"I would want to be remembered as a faculty member who genuinely cared about the students."

Q: What is your message to students?

"I encourage students to make whatever space they are in more positive. That when you walk into a room, you make it happier." [Read more.](#)

[⬆ back to top](#)

MEET THE STAFF OF "THE REPORT"

Staff for "The Report" are nominated by RPTA faculty for demonstrating excellent writing skills in RPTA classes. Student writers then coordinate with the editor and faculty advisor Dr. Brian Greenwood to develop and write articles.

The editor for 2021-2013 is **Anthonia "Toni" Edgren** (RPTA '13). This is Toni's third year as editor!

Kevin Mould (RPTA '14) and **Hannah Baker** (RPTA '13) are returning staff members who began in Fall 201, and Winter 2012, respectively. **Laurel Thomson** (RPTA '15) began this fall as a new staff member. Welcome, Laurel!

[Read more about the staff.](#)

[⬆ back to top](#)

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Interested donors should first choose "**College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences**" and then have the choice of giving to the "**Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Administration department**" OR the "**Excellence in Recreation Administration (REC Excellence) fund**," which is designated to benefit RPTA student and faculty professional development.

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Navigation

Curriculum Information

[Advising Information](#)

[Curriculum Information](#)

[Concentrations](#)

[Course Schedules](#)

[Degree Information](#)

News & Activities

[Clubs](#)

[News & Features](#)

[Newsletters](#)

Resources & Opportunities

[Faculty and Office Hours](#)

[Career Paths](#)

[Resource Links](#)

[Alumni Spotlight](#)

[Internships & Senior Project](#)

[Scholarships](#)

Listening to Students

[College Based Fees](#)

[RPTA Department > Fall 2012 Newsletter](#)

Fall 2012 Newsletter

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Finally, it is with sadness yet appreciation that we bid farewell to Dr. Jeff Jacobs. Dr. Jacobs has been a faculty member in RPTA for over nine years and he is leaving Cal Poly to pursue his lifelong dream of serving as the Executive Director of Camp Henry in Michigan. He has had a major influence on our students, faculty and community. We will miss Dr. Jacobs as a colleague, educator, and friend. He will always be a member of our RPTA family.

In closing, I hope that you will each follow Jodi Hamp Fisher’s words to live by: “Be generous, be kind, be wonderful.” I hope to see you all at the RPTA Auction and Dinner Benefit on February 22.

[Back to Fall 2012 newsletter](#)

ADDITIONAL LINKS

[Contact Information](#)

[Advisory Council](#)

[Graduate Program](#)

[How to Enroll](#)

[Request Info](#)

[Annual Career Fair - Organizational Registration](#)

[Where in the world is RPTA?](#)

[Make a Donation](#)



NEWS & EVENTS

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Navigation

Curriculum Information

[Advising Information](#)

[Curriculum Information](#)

[Concentrations](#)

[Course Schedules](#)

[Degree Information](#)

News & Activities

[Clubs](#)

[News & Features](#)

[Newsletters](#)

Resources & Opportunities

[Faculty and Office Hours](#)

[Career Paths](#)

[Resource Links](#)

[Alumni Spotlight](#)

[Internships & Senior Project](#)

[Scholarships](#)

Listening to Students

[College Based Fees](#)

[RPTA Department](#) > [Fall 2012 Newsletter](#)

Fall 2012 Newsletter

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[View all Newsletters](#)

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Most students in the department have had the privilege to have Dr. Jacobs as a professor at least once, usually in RPTA 205 or in RPTA 360. But even those who have not had him have heard what an amazing person and professor he is. From the charismatic way that Dr. Jacobs enters a classroom, to his genuine interest in your well being, class performance, and questions. From his style of teaching that makes one feel comfortable and challenged all at the same time, to the passion he has for life that he demonstrates in everything he does. Dr. Jacobs is a legend and an inspiration.

Lisa Osorio ('13) recalls, "My favorite memory of Dr. Jacobs has to be the last day of our Environmental Education class. We met in the Arboretum and Dr. Jacobs read us "The Places You'll Go" by Dr. Suess. Once he finished, he encouraged us to dream big and always do what we love. In January, I will miss being welcomed to class the most."

In his career at Cal Poly, Dr. Jacobs has won numerous awards and was

ADDITIONAL LINKS

[Contact Information](#)

[Advisory Council](#)

[Graduate Program](#)

[How to Enroll](#)

[Request Info](#)

[Annual Career Fair - Organizational Registration](#)

[Where in the world is RPTA?](#)

[Make a Donation](#)



NEWS & EVENTS

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consistently recognized as one of the best professors at Cal Poly. But more than that, Dr. Jacobs will be remembered for challenging students to do the impossible, like raising money to build a new playground in RPTA 205, or to go outside their comfort zone by screaming at the top of their lungs while running through an arboretum, or to sell

thousands of T-shirts to help a family in need. Dr. Jacobs is admired by his students for not only his energy and support, but for the type of person he was. RPTA Senior Ryan Van Niekerk reflects, "I will always remember what a great teacher Mr. Jacobs was. I loved his priorities and his love and care for the students he taught each day."

Though Dr. Jacobs will be leaving Cal Poly after fall quarter for Camp Henry in Michigan, his departure sends a message to students: live your passion and follow your dreams. After attending Camp Henry since age 9, working there throughout high school as a counselor, and serving as summer camp director for the last 12 years, Dr. Jacobs has accepted his dream job as Executive Director at Camp Henry. He and his family will return to Michigan and follow their dreams.

Throughout his time here, Dr. Jacobs has impacted thousands of students and has taught each one something new. Whether it be how to create a perfect survey, how to tackle ice-breakers, or how to make a difference in other's lives, each RPTA student has been impacted by the energy and charisma of Dr. Jacobs.

The Cal Poly RPTA department would like to congratulate Dr. Jacobs on his new adventure and best wishes for the future! We will miss you!

[Back to Fall 2012 newsletter](#)

[⬆ back to top](#)

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Navigation
Curriculum Information
Advising Information
Curriculum Information
Concentrations
Course Schedules
Degree Information
News & Activities
Clubs
News & Features
Newsletters
Resources & Opportunities
Faculty and Office Hours
Career Paths
Resource Links
Alumni Spotlight
Internships & Senior Project
Scholarships
Listening to Students
College Based Fees

RPTA Department > Fall 2012 Newsletter

Fall 2012 Newsletter

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[View all Newsletters](#)

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ADDITIONAL LINKS

[Contact Information](#)

[Advisory Council](#)

[Graduate Program](#)

[How to Enroll](#)

[Request Info](#)

[Annual Career Fair - Organizational Registration](#)

[Where in the world is RPTA?](#)

[Make a Donation](#)



NEWS & EVENTS

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Lepp capped a distinguished collegiate career by receiving the top award for undergraduate students at the conference. It was a homecoming of sorts for Lepp, as she completed her internship with the Disney College Program in Orlando at Disneyworld. It was Lepp's third NRPA Annual Congress, as she previously attended conferences in Minneapolis (2010) and Atlanta (2011) while competing on RPTA's Academic Quiz Bowl team that won the national title and finished in 3rd place, respectively, in those years.



Lepp also had a hand in the Rho Phi Lambda Chapter Incentive Award and the Outstanding Student Club Award, as she served as the president of Cal Poly's Alpha Mu Chapter in 2011-2012. She joined current president Caitlin Looney in accepting these chapter awards. The Chapter Incentive Award was given to recognize the numerous service and leadership activities that the club engages in on an annual basis. The Outstanding Student Club Award was in recognition of extraordinary service to promote the park and recreation field both on campus and in the community.

Bill Hendricks, RPTA Department Head, discussed all three awards, "Receipt of these awards at a conference of 8,000 attendees will spread the Cal Poly name locally and nationally. This recognition further validates our establishment as one of the leading academic programs in the country."

For more information about NRPA, visit <http://www.nrpa.org>.

[Back to Fall 2012 newsletter](#)

[↕ back to top](#)

[Congress in Anaheim. Read more](#)

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Navigation

Curriculum Information

Advising Information

Curriculum Information

Concentrations

Course Schedules

Degree Information

News & Activities

Clubs

News & Features

Newsletters

Resources & Opportunities

Faculty and Office Hours

Career Paths

Resource Links

Alumni Spotlight

Internships & Senior Project

Scholarships

Listening to Students

College Based Fees

RPTA Department > Fall 2012 Newsletter

Fall 2012 Newsletter
Live It, Protect It, Explore It!



View all Newsletters

RPTA SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT
ESTABLISHED IN ALUMNA JODI HAMP
FISHER'S NAME

By: Dr. Bill Hendricks, Department Head

Family and friends of Cal Poly alumna Jodi Hamp Fisher have created a scholarship endowment in her memory. In honor of the 1997 Recreation, Parks, & Tourism Administration grad, who died in March after battling cancer, the scholarship will support the educational costs of students majoring in RPTA. Preference will be given to students with a career interest in the outdoors.

Fisher is known for giving out free ice cream in Cayucos on her 44th birthday, hugging President Obama at the airport in San Francisco, and appearing on the Ellen DeGeneres show – all items on her "fun list" as she fought inoperable cancer. Those who want to join Fisher's family and friends in recognizing her inspirational legacy and contributions to others, are asked to add their support.

Charitable contributions can be made [online here](#) or sent to: Bill Hendricks, Ph.D., Recreation, Parks, & Tourism Administration Department, 1 Grand Ave., Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA 93407. Please make checks payable to the "Cal Poly Foundation" and indicate "Jodi Hamp Fisher Scholarship Endowment" in the memo line.

For questions about the Jodi Hamp Fisher Scholarship Endowment, contact Rosey

ADDITIONAL LINKS

Contact Information

Advisory Council

Graduate Program

How to Enroll

Request Info

Annual Career Fair -
Organizational Registration

Where in the world is RPTA?

Make a Donation



NEWS & EVENTS

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Parks, director of development for the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences, at ext. 6-7367 or rparks@calpoly.edu.

[Back to Fall 2012 newsletter](#)

[⬆ back to top](#)

Make a Donation

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Congress in Anaheim. [Read more](#)

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Dr. Bill Hendricks was named one of two 2011-2012 Distinguished Scholarship Award winners. Hendricks was honored with a reception in May 2012 and will be recognized again at both commencement in June 2012 and convocation in September 2012. [Read more](#)

Navigation

Curriculum Information

[Advising Information](#)

[Curriculum Information](#)

[Concentrations](#)

[Course Schedules](#)

[Degree Information](#)

News & Activities

[Clubs](#)

[News & Features](#)

[Newsletters](#)

Resources & Opportunities

[Faculty and Office Hours](#)

[Career Paths](#)

[Resource Links](#)

[Alumni Spotlight](#)

[Internships & Senior Project](#)

[Scholarships](#)

Listening to Students

[College Based Fees](#)

[RPTA Department](#) > [Fall 2012 Newsletter](#)

Fall 2012 Newsletter

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[View all Newsletters](#)

RPTA'S ANNUAL DINNER AND AUCTION: "THE ROOTS OF EDUCATION"

By *Hannah Baker (RPTA '13), Staff Writer*

The annual RPTA dinner and auction is in the works to be an incredible experience for students, alumni, parents, and RPTA family alike! With a vintage theme of *The Roots of Education*, the event looks to be as classy and enjoyable as ever. The auction planning committee has been working long and hard each week, so one can only imagine what great efforts they have put into this much anticipated department fundraiser.

ADDITIONAL LINKS

[Contact Information](#)

[Advisory Council](#)

[Graduate Program](#)

[How to Enroll](#)

[Request Info](#)

[Annual Career Fair - Organizational Registration](#)

[Where in the world is RPTA?](#)

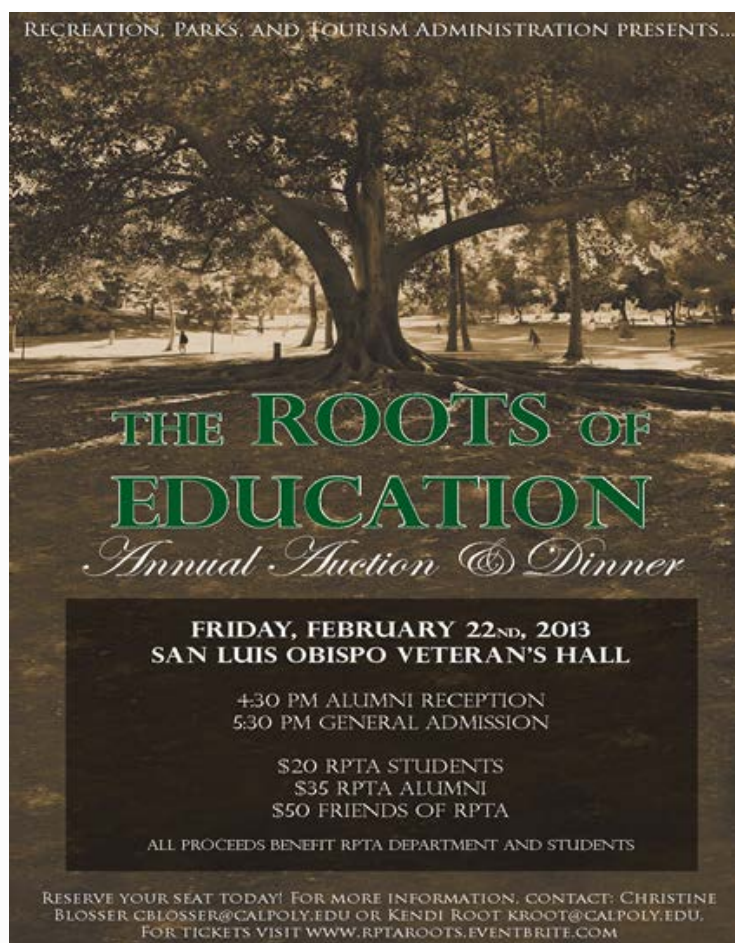
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NEWS & EVENTS

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Not only does the auction portray what an amazing RPTA program we have at Cal Poly, but it opens the doors for others to donate and benefits RPTA students and the department. The planning committee hopes to appeal to as many people as possible with a final goal of raising around \$25,000. The committee had its preliminary meetings in early March to discuss what they hoped the auction would look like and how the theme would be incorporated. Some brainstorming took place over summer as well, but the bulk of the planning and finalization of the event was determined over fall.

Each planning committee member has a job and focus for the event. This will be Kyli Frauenheim's ('13) second year helping out with the auction. "This year, I am in charge of the auction items for both Silent and Live Auctions. I will be collecting donations as they come in, arranging the baskets, keeping track of basket contents, value, donators, and what they sell for," Frauenheim comments. "A major difference to look forward to compared to last year's auction is the Alumni Reception. It will be a great 'welcome back' and honoring of our fabulous alumni."

Another big change for the auction this year will be the convenient and local location of the San Luis Obispo Veterans Hall. Not only is the location close to Cal Poly and downtown SLO, but it is closely located to many hotels, which gives visiting families easy access to the auction. Jamie Dehn ('13), chair of the planning committee, discussed this aspect: "Numbers dropped last year due to the auction being in Paso Robles. Keeping it local is a big thing for us, so the venue change to the SLO Vets Hall will be great and much more convenient." Dehn also mentioned how much she enjoys working with the auction committee by commenting, "I love it, it is so much fun working with everyone because it is manageable and everything pays off in the end. We are a great team and everyone is super helpful."

The set-up of the event will be changed a bit from what it was last year. The committee

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decided to go back to a sit down dinner instead of a more casual dining setting with hors d'oeuvres only. Another focus is for larger auction gifts to be donated for the Silent and Live Auctions. The RPTA department has many connections with organizations such as the San Francisco Giants and Disney, but donations within the SLO community are being sought out as well.

The Alumni Reception will be held at 4:30pm Friday, February 22nd with general admission beginning at 5:30pm. Make sure to reserve your seat today, and spread the word about this amazing event that supports such an amazing program!

[Back to Fall 2012 newsletter](#)

[⬆ back to top](#)

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Navigation

Curriculum Information

[Advising Information](#)

[Curriculum Information](#)

[Concentrations](#)

[Course Schedules](#)

[Degree Information](#)

News & Activities

[Clubs](#)

[News & Features](#)

[Newsletters](#)

Resources & Opportunities

[Faculty and Office Hours](#)

[Career Paths](#)

[Resource Links](#)

[Alumni Spotlight](#)

[Internships & Senior Project](#)

[Scholarships](#)

Listening to Students

[College Based Fees](#)

[RPTA Department > Fall 2012 Newsletter](#)

Fall 2012 Newsletter
Live It, Protect It, Explore It!



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RPTA "GETS ITS GLOW ON!"

By Hannah Baker (RPTA '13), Staff Writer

"Get Your Glow On" was the ongoing slogan for this year's Cal Poly Midnight 5K Fun Run. A group of nine students from Dr. Goldenberg's RPTA 210 class worked closely with the Special Olympics of San Luis Obispo County to put on the 5th annual event. With an 80's theme in place, there were volunteers and runners dressed to impress and supporting a good cause at the same time!



The process of creating the fun run started as soon as Fall Quarter began. Weekly meetings took place at the Special Olympics office with the students and the Special Olympics supervisors. Each student was involved in planning different aspects of the event such as registration, promotion, pre/post race activities, and sponsorship. Once the date was set for Wednesday, November 14th, it was time to spread the word. Flyers were hung up on bulletin boards throughout campus and a registration booth was set up during UU hours in the UU Plaza several times. What was very beneficial to the registration process this year was the use of active.com. This online website allowed for people to search for the fun run, sign up, and learn about other local activities as well.

The race course which twisted and turned throughout Cal Poly's campus remained the

ADDITIONAL LINKS

[Contact Information](#)

[Advisory Council](#)

[Graduate Program](#)

[How to Enroll](#)

[Request Info](#)

[Annual Career Fair - Organizational Registration](#)

[Where in the world is RPTA?](#)

[Make a Donation](#)



NEWS & EVENTS

Dr. Marni Goldenberg was honored at the President's Community Service Awards with the 2013 Service Learning Award for her work in partnering her classes with community organizations. [Read more](#)

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same from years prior, but the t-shirt designs changed drastically. Keeping with an 80's theme, it was decided that the t-shirts would have funky fonts, Converse high tops images, and would glow in the dark. In comparison to previous years' themes, the 80's vibe encouraged runners to dress up and have fun at the event.



Come 10:00pm on November 14th, there was a steady flow of participants either checking into the registration booth or signing up right then and there. The pre-event activities all took place in the Campus Market Plaza, which was lit up by Christmas lights strung from tree to tree. With a DJ playing the jams all night, runners had the chance to "get their groove on" out on the dance floor while drinking free Monster Energy Drinks. A big highlight of the night was the Zumba warm-up that took place just before the run. The warm-up took place on the packed dance floor as the certified Zumba instructor "busted" the moves.

When the clock struck midnight, the runners took off into the darkness. Volunteers were stationed at each corner of the course directing runners on which way to turn. With over 130 participants, wearing everything from tu-tu's to roller skates, it was quite a sight to see.

The finish line was lined with people cheering as the first place runner came storming through, obtaining a time of a little over 15 minutes. As each runner soon passed the finish line they were treated with Gatorade and water, goodie bags, and free Domino's Pizza. Hopefully those that participated in the fun run this year will continue to do so in the future, thus keeping the annual event popular and beneficial for the Special Olympics.

[Back to Fall 2012 newsletter](#)

[⬆ back to top](#)

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Congress in Anaheim. [Read more](#)

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Navigation

Curriculum Information

[Advising Information](#)

[Curriculum Information](#)

[Concentrations](#)

[Course Schedules](#)

[Degree Information](#)

News & Activities

[Clubs](#)

[News & Features](#)

[Newsletters](#)

Resources & Opportunities

[Faculty and Office Hours](#)

[Career Paths](#)

[Resource Links](#)

[Alumni Spotlight](#)

[Internships & Senior Project](#)

[Scholarships](#)

Listening to Students

[College Based Fees](#)

[RPTA Department](#) > [Fall 2012 Newsletter](#)

Fall 2012 Newsletter

Live It, Protect It, Explore It!



[View all Newsletters](#)

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: DAVID SMITH

SWITCH TO RPTA WAS RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

By Laurel Thomson (RPTA '15), Staff Writer

David Smith (RPTA '97), president of the Los Angeles Angels' RBI (Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities) program, found his recipe for success with Cal Poly's RPTA program. When he first matriculated to Cal Poly, Smith was an Engineering Technology major. Soon thereafter, Engineering Technology was cut as a major due to budget issues, and Smith found himself looking for a home. During his first quarter at Cal Poly, he worked as a Basketball official for Recreational Sports. His supervisor was an RPTA senior, which is where he first learned of the RPTA major. When his major was cut, Smith officially transferred into RPTA and declared sport management as his emphasis area. Smith continued to work for Recreational Sports and later went to become an Intramural Sports Supervisor. He claimed that because he was an athlete "sports and recreation [were] in [his] DNA." This made RPTA a perfect fit for him.



When he transferred into the RPTA major, there were two full-time and four part-time faculty and 175 students. It was a small program, which meant that all the students and professors were close; it made it a "real family atmosphere," said Smith. Throughout his time at Cal Poly, Smith remembers his RPTA classes really connecting students to real life companies, allowing them to apply the lessons they learned. He specifically remembers one time when his class was assigned to plan the San Luis Obispo Christmas parade, and he was the project leader. He says he still "can't believe [they] were given so much responsibility," but remembers the sense of accomplishment he felt after seeing the joy on thousands of parade attendees faces. The RPTA program taught him valuable lessons that he still uses to this day.

After Cal Poly, Smith went on to get a Master's from Middle Tennessee State University, where he also had a graduate assistantship as an Intramural Sports Supervisor and Marketing Manager. From there, he took his first job as the Sports Director at the

ADDITIONAL LINKS

[Contact Information](#)

[Advisory Council](#)

[Graduate Program](#)

[How to Enroll](#)

[Request Info](#)

[Annual Career Fair - Organizational Registration](#)

[Where in the world is RPTA?](#)

[Make a Donation](#)



NEWS & EVENTS

Dr. Marni Goldenberg was honored at the President's Community Service Awards with the 2013 Service Learning Award for her work in partnering her classes with community organizations. [Read more](#)

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Atlanta Athletic Club. As president of Angels RBI, a national youth outreach initiative that partners with the Los Angeles Angels to provide baseball and softball for youth who would otherwise not be able to experience these games, Smith credits his experience in the RPTA program at Cal Poly for making professional standards and integrity the "cornerstones" of his education. Thanks to the RPTA program stressing and applying these standards consistently throughout his time at Cal Poly, he learned the "right way" to do things, which has proven to be valuable numerous times in his career.

[Back to Fall 2012 newsletter](#)

[⬆ back to top](#)

Make a Donation

[Make a donation to the Recreation, Parks, & Tourism Administration Department!](#)

Congress in Anaheim. [Read more](#)

RPTA alumna Amy Lepp and RPTA's chapter of Rho Phi Lambda, the major's honors society, received awards at the 2012 NRPA Annual Congress in Anaheim. [Read more](#)

Dr. Bill Hendricks was named one of two 2011-2012 Distinguished Scholarship Award winners. Hendricks was honored with a reception in May 2012 and will be recognized again at both commencement in June 2012 and convocation in September 2012. [Read more](#)

Navigation

Curriculum Information

[Advising Information](#)

[Curriculum Information](#)

[Concentrations](#)

[Course Schedules](#)

[Degree Information](#)

News & Activities

[Clubs](#)

[News & Features](#)

[Newsletters](#)

Resources & Opportunities

[Faculty and Office Hours](#)

[Career Paths](#)

[Resource Links](#)

[Alumni Spotlight](#)

[Internships & Senior Project](#)

[Scholarships](#)

Listening to Students

[College Based Fees](#)

[RPTA Department](#) > [Fall 2012 Newsletter](#)

Fall 2012 Newsletter

Live It, Protect It, Explore It!



[View all Newsletters](#)

GOLDENBERG BIKES FOR A CAUSE IN TOUR DE PINK

By Laurel Thomson (RPTA '15), Staff Writer

On October 12, 2012, Dr. Marni Goldenberg began what she refers to as "the most intense physical thing I've ever done." Dr. Goldenberg participated in the Tour De Pink, a nearly 200-mile long bike ride along the west coast of California for the Young Survival Coalition (YSC).

The YSC is a non-profit organization dedicated to the issues faced by those who are diagnosed with breast cancer under age 40. The organization makes it their goal to let young women with breast cancer know that they are not alone, and to raise awareness for their cause. In order to participate, Dr. Goldenberg had to raise a minimum of \$2,500, which she did within a couple of weeks. She began the Tour De Pink on October 12, at Giant Bikes, one of the bike ride's sponsors, in Thousand Oaks, California. On the first day, she rode 68 miles to Manhattan Beach, and then another 71 miles down the coast to Dana Point on day 2. On her final day of Tour De Pink, Dr. Goldenberg rode the last 55 miles of the bike ride to the Oakley headquarters, another one of the ride's sponsors, in Foothill Ranch.



ADDITIONAL LINKS

[Contact Information](#)

[Advisory Council](#)

[Graduate Program](#)

[How to Enroll](#)

[Request Info](#)

[Annual Career Fair - Organizational Registration](#)

[Where in the world is RPTA?](#)

[Make a Donation](#)



NEWS & EVENTS

Dr. Marni Goldenberg was honored at the President's Community Service Awards with the 2013 Service Learning Award for her work in partnering her classes with community organizations. [Read more](#)

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Dr. Goldenberg began her training for Tour De Pink in April, when she bought her first road bike. She'd train on the weekends, riding up to 30 miles with her training partner, Cal Poly alumna Brittany Tomasco. When it came time for the actual ride, Goldenberg rode in memory of two men who had recently died of cancer, and used this as motivation to push on. She also thought about all the people who had supported her through her battle against cancer, and used that as fuel for the long ride ahead. Dr. Goldenberg's favorite part about the race was the immense support of all the volunteers. There was one point when she got a flat tire, and one of the men who followed the riders on motorcycles stopped and changed her tire for her. She also enjoyed feeling like she was contributing to the awareness of young adults' breast cancer challenges. Throughout her ride, people on the streets and in the towns would stop and ask what they were riding for; this gave her the opportunity to answer their questions and spread awareness across the west coast.



If there is one thing Dr. Goldenberg wanted her students to get out of her ride in Tour De Pink, it would be to find a challenge, and encourage them to go for it! She truly wants students to appreciate the body's strength, and the amazing things it can accomplish. Just a year ago, she was going through chemotherapy; and now just a short time later, she's able to push her body to ride close to 200 miles in 3 days! She wants to challenge all her students to find a cause they are passionate about and dare themselves to accomplish something for it.

[Back to Fall 2012 newsletter](#)

Congress in Anaheim. [Read more](#)

RPTA alumna Amy Lepp and RPTA's chapter of Rho Phi Lambda, the major's honors society, received awards at the 2012 NRPA Annual Congress in Anaheim. [Read more](#)

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[↩ back to top](#)

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Navigation
Curriculum Information
Advising Information
Curriculum Information
Concentrations
Course Schedules
Degree Information
News & Activities
Clubs
News & Features
Newsletters
Resources & Opportunities
Faculty and Office Hours
Career Paths
Resource Links
Alumni Spotlight
Internships & Senior Project
Scholarships
Listening to Students
College Based Fees

RPTA Department > Fall 2012 Newsletter

Fall 2012 Newsletter

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[View all Newsletters](#)

REFLECTIONS ON MY FIRST PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE

By Kevin Mould (RPTA '14), Staff Writer



When I first accepted my position on the Quiz Bowl team last spring, I wasn't quite sure what to expect. I guess that this is true for most things in the sense that other people can tell you about a place or experience all they want, but you can never truly know until you've done it yourself. It was in this position that I found myself over the summer as I prepared, and even more so in

the fall as the date of the 2012 NRPA Congress rapidly approached. I knew plenty of exhibitors were going to be there, and that our department faculty were going to give presentations, but I still wondered: How was everything going to look? What kind of people would I encounter? What will the other Quiz Bowl Teams be like?

With these questions still in my mind and an abundance of nervous energy, the day finally arrived to hit the road for Anaheim. When we arrived, I was instantly engulfed by the magic of Disneyland and the signs and displays for the conference that would be kicking off the next morning. After getting settled and having the chance to explore a little bit, I came to a realization: this was going to be awesome. Sure enough, the conference's opening day did not disappoint. I was initially overwhelmed by the masses of people in the registration lines, but once the commencement session got underway with its opening remarks from the NRPA president and a thoroughly entertaining keynote speaker, I was ready to take everything on. The exhibit hall was full of exhibitors of every kind, from playground and sports equipment makers to book

ADDITIONAL LINKS

[Contact Information](#)

[Advisory Council](#)

[Graduate Program](#)

[How to Enroll](#)

[Request Info](#)

[Annual Career Fair - Organizational Registration](#)

[Where in the world is RPTA?](#)

[Make a Donation](#)



NEWS & EVENTS

Dr. Marni Goldenberg was honored at the President's Community Service Awards with the 2013 Service Learning Award for her work in partnering her classes with community organizations. [Read more](#)

The RPTA Academic Quiz Bowl team comprised of Jamie Dehn (captain), Jordaine McGinnity, Kevin Mould, and Hayley De Carolis (alternate) put on a dominant performance in capturing Cal Poly RPTA's second national title in three years at the NRPA Annual

publishers and other universities there to promote their programs. My time spent working at Cal Poly's booth brought with it interactions with potential grad students, individuals looking to network, and general conference attendees with genuine curiosity about our major. Being able to talk to everyone and learn more about the variety of options available in our industry was an eye-opening experience.



After a short but de-stressing trip to Disneyland that afternoon, Wednesday, the day of the Quiz Bowl, finally arrived. Myself and the other team members started it off by listening to a presentation from Dr. Greenwood, John Engh (Chief Operating Officer for the National Alliance for Youth Sports), and Dr. Hendricks regarding competitive balance and youth sports. We then took some more time to make our way around the convention floor and talk with people before going into study mode. All too quickly the competition arrived, and I was as nervous as I have ever been. Once everything picked up and got going, however, I was focused and determined to put forth a strong effort. Needless to say, our combined strengths showed through, and the title was ours after an exciting couple of hours. Excitement and celebration followed, and with them the opportunity for the whole Cal Poly delegation to spend time together as a group (along with our fellow students from Texas A&M).

Before heading home the next day we got the rare opportunity to take an exclusive tour of the Disneyland Hotel properties with Jason Alexander. Alexander is General Manager of Disney's Paradise Pier Hotel and an RPTA Advisory Council member. I learned an immense amount about the resort and the many components that make it so successful. All in all, I can easily say that this conference will go down as one of my best college experiences, and one that provided me with extensive practical experience. Although it may not have gotten me a job or an internship, I grew more comfortable with the process of networking with people and exploring what our industry has to offer, both of which should undoubtedly benefit me down the road. I am truly appreciative of the experience that I had, and can forever look to this conference as a showcase of all the things that make our department so great!

[Back to Fall 2012 newsletter](#)

[↗ back to top](#)

[Congress in Anaheim. Read more](#)

RPTA alumna Amy Lepp and RPTA's chapter of Rho Phi Lambda, the major's honors society, received awards at the 2012 NRPA Annual Congress in Anaheim. [Read more](#)

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Navigation

Curriculum Information

[Advising Information](#)

[Curriculum Information](#)

[Concentrations](#)

[Course Schedules](#)

[Degree Information](#)

News & Activities

[Clubs](#)

[News & Features](#)

[Newsletters](#)

Resources & Opportunities

[Faculty and Office Hours](#)

[Career Paths](#)

[Resource Links](#)

[Alumni Spotlight](#)

[Internships & Senior Project](#)

[Scholarships](#)

Listening to Students

[College Based Fees](#)

[RPTA Department](#) > [Fall 2012 Newsletter](#)

Fall 2012 Newsletter

Live It, Protect It, Explore It!



[View all Newsletters](#)

RPTA 325 DIVES "HEAD FIRST" INTO WATER-BASED OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP

By *Anthonia Edgren (RPTA '13), Editor, The Report*

The RPTA department offers many classes that make other Cal Poly students jealous, one of those being RPTA 325: Water-Based Outdoor and Adventure Leadership. This quarter, RPTA 325 was all about facilitating and fostering water-based outdoor leadership skills both in and outside of the



classroom. Under the guidance of Dr. Goldenberg, the class had the task of planning a field trip down to the very last detail, and executing it on a weekend excursion. The class broke up into two groups, Field Trip A and Field Trip B. The Field Trip A group planned a trip to Lake San Antonio where they would kayak, camp, hike, and teach lesson plans over a three-day period. Route planning, campsite reservations, kayak transportation, food and all other essentials were planned and organized by the students. Over the course of three days, Field Trip A students kayaked approximately 10 miles and taught lesson plans that ranged from compass reading to how to properly setup and use camping stoves. Overall, the students on Field trip A had an amazing time bonding, kayaking, playing in the water, and learning useful skills applicable in the wilderness. Amanda Wilson ('13), charged with managing equipment for the trip, truly enjoyed the experience and said, "Our field trip was amazing, and it was really nice to get to know other RPTA majors outside of class in an outdoor setting."

ADDITIONAL LINKS

[Contact Information](#)

[Advisory Council](#)

[Graduate Program](#)

[How to Enroll](#)

[Request Info](#)

[Annual Career Fair - Organizational Registration](#)

[Where in the world is RPTA?](#)

[Make a Donation](#)



NEWS & EVENTS

Dr. Marni Goldenberg was honored at the President's Community Service Awards with the 2013 Service Learning Award for her work in partnering her classes with community organizations. [Read more](#)

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Field Trip B students had the opportunity to traverse the ocean waters at Big Sur. Students had the challenge of transporting kayaks from their campsite to the ocean waters, about one mile away! However, the reward was well worth it, as students were able to take in the beautiful waters and cliffs that Big Sur has to offer. The Field Trip B group also engaged in various lesson plans, hiking, camping, and group bonding that reiterated the purpose of the class - to build leadership skills in an outdoor setting. On the third day of their field trip, the students topped off their experience by kayaking at San Simeon. Lisa Osorio ('13) felt that RPTA 325 was even better than she could have imagined, "My favorite memory of the Big Sur trip was kayaking at San Simeon State Beach on Sunday afternoon. The water was pristine sea foam green, and there was even a secret beach to explore along the cliffs edge! Getting credit for the experience only sweetened the deal."

What was truly unique about the class was the hands-on learning and application of skills learned in the classroom that transferred to an outdoor setting. Dr. Goldenberg said, "What I truly enjoyed about the class was watching the students learn skills and gain knowledge inside the classroom, and actually apply it on the field trips." Watching the students learn through being challenged by unpredictable scenarios, practical skills, and facilitating leadership among peers was the goal of the course. Even those with prior outdoor leadership experience gained new skills and knowledge through the course. RPTA senior, Jeremy Lipton-Schwartz found the class very useful and relevant, " Though I had previous experience in outdoor leadership through NOLS (National Outdoor Leadership School), RPTA 325 gave me an opportunity to utilize the skills I already had, while developing new ones. Working together as a team to overcome challenges, teach each other skills and have a fun time ultimately made this class very rewarding and worthwhile."

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Students in RPTA 325 also had an opportunity to volunteer in the community. Students gave back by doing trail work, volunteering at outdoor recreation events, and environmental clean-ups. Anthonia Edgren ('13) felt inspired by the class as a whole. "By volunteering at the Concerned Central Coast Mountain Bikers trail clean-up, I now feel inspired and moved to find an organization in San Luis Obispo and volunteer my time more often. In addition, having the opportunity to go on a camping and kayaking field trip with classmates was an awesome way to cap off my senior year. Not only did it help me by further developing my leadership skills, but I now better understand the value of going outdoors and spending time in nature-and I plan to do so more often!"

[Back to Fall 2012 newsletter](#)

[⬆ back to top](#)

Make a Donation

[Make a donation to the Recreation, Parks, & Tourism Administration Department!](#)

Navigation

Curriculum Information

[Advising Information](#)

[Curriculum Information](#)

[Concentrations](#)

[Course Schedules](#)

[Degree Information](#)

News & Activities

[Clubs](#)

[News & Features](#)

[Newsletters](#)

Resources & Opportunities

[Faculty and Office Hours](#)

[Career Paths](#)

[Resource Links](#)

[Alumni Spotlight](#)

[Internships & Senior Project](#)

[Scholarships](#)

Listening to Students

[College Based Fees](#)

[RPTA Department > Fall 2012 Newsletter](#)

Fall 2012 Newsletter

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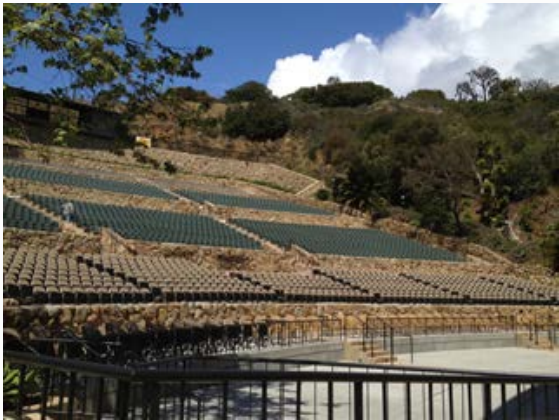


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DID SOMEBODY SAY, "FIELD TRIP!"?

AN RPTA 420 EXCURSION TO THE SANTA BARBARA BOWL

By Hannah Baker (RPTA '13), Staff Writer



Imagine yourself standing center stage, looking out onto a beautiful venue full of natural beauty and history. This vision became reality for students in Professor Kendi Root's RPTA 420 class this past Fall Quarter. As a recurring field trip, the class visited the Santa Barbara Bowl to learn the ins and outs of

promoting and hosting an event. As a mid-size venue in a beautiful picturesque location, the Santa Barbara Bowl has hosted countless musical artists, including orchestra and symphony performances as well. Students of RPTA 420 were lucky enough to gain full exposure to this premier concert venue.

Jeffrey Thomas ('13) was quite impressed with the aesthetics of the venue. With new renovations, the Santa Barbara Bowl is taking steps to become more eco-friendly. "It was awesome to see the new features that have been recently added to the SB Bowl. They just renovated the roof that covers the stage, re-did the walkways, and have put a lot of time into their landscaping." Thomas found the field trip to be, "informative and cool to see where the bands hang out before going on stage."

ADDITIONAL LINKS

[Contact Information](#)

[Advisory Council](#)

[Graduate Program](#)

[How to Enroll](#)

[Request Info](#)

[Annual Career Fair - Organizational Registration](#)

[Where in the world is RPTA?](#)

[Make a Donation](#)



NEWS & EVENTS

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Nestled in a small canyon-like area with surrounding neighborhoods, the Santa Barbara Bowl is 'local' to say the least. There is a mutual respect between the venue and its nearby residents in regards to noise and concert end times. In the beginning years, the bands that would come out to play were fairly local and not well-known across the country. Now, as its reputation has grown, the Santa Barbara Bowl is gaining bigger recognition by hosting musicians such as Katy Perry, Wiz Khalifa, and Mumford & Sons, just to name a few. Each year, the venue attracts around 35-45 bands during its concert season.

Getting the chance to visit such a famous venue as part of a class field trip was more than exciting. For one student in particular, Kendra Reay ('13), it was more like an opportunity to pursue her future goals. With a concentration in Event Planning & Management, Reay has taken the leap and applied for an internship with the Santa Barbara Bowl. "I really want to work for concerts and festivals, so I could not pass up the opportunity to get my foot in the door," Reay commented. She also mentioned how beneficial it was to "get exposure to a concert venue and everything that goes into making a production work."

[Back to Fall 2012 newsletter](#)

[↩ back to top](#)

Make a Donation

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Congress in Anaheim. [Read more](#)

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Navigation
Curriculum Information
Advising Information
Curriculum Information
Concentrations
Course Schedules
Degree Information
News & Activities
Clubs
News & Features
Newsletters
Resources & Opportunities
Faculty and Office Hours
Career Paths
Resource Links
Alumni Spotlight
Internships & Senior Project
Scholarships
Listening to Students
College Based Fees

RPTA Department > Fall 2012 Newsletter

Fall 2012 Newsletter

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[View all Newsletters](#)

RPTA CLUB: "FALL"ing INTO ACTION!

By Laurel Thomson (RPTA '15), Staff Writer

Fall quarter has been a busy one full of friends, food, and fun for the RPTA club! Under the leadership of President Brittany Glasnow ('13) and Vice President Kiefer Reischl ('14), the RPTA club has been hard at working recruiting new members and getting involved in the recreation, parks, and tourism field. Members volunteered at the Morro Bay Harbor Festival as they have in years past. Club members had the opportunity to meet great people and help a local community host an incredible event!



This year, the officers are getting a fresh start connecting with new and old members. Officers also revamped the meetings; there's tasty food, as always, but also door prizes. Club officers have also placed a renewed emphasis on professionals coming to speak at club meetings. This fall, Adam Stowe, the general manager of Blues Baseball, came to a meeting to discuss internships he has available for students.

Along with their newly designed meetings, the RPTA club has also been active in Intramurals - playing Dodgeball on Sunday nights this past fall. They may not have made the playoffs, but they sure did have a good time hanging with their fellow students and friends! On November 8th, club members even started out the day with a sunrise hike to Bishop Peak; donuts were eaten, Bishop Peak was hiked, and a good time was had by all.

As always, the RPTA club has endless fun and opportunities in store for the rest of this year. Right now, they are in the process of planning a Poly Escapes trip in January.

ADDITIONAL LINKS

[Contact Information](#)

[Advisory Council](#)

[Graduate Program](#)

[How to Enroll](#)

[Request Info](#)

[Annual Career Fair - Organizational Registration](#)

[Where in the world is RPTA?](#)

[Make a Donation](#)



NEWS & EVENTS

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during which they will either kayak or snowshoe! Stay tuned as more RPTA club adventures are sure to come!

Missing out on the fun? Don't! It's never too late to sign-up! Membership is \$15 and includes an awesome T-shirt! Come on out and join the RPTA club for a fun time with friends and your RPTA family!

[Back to Fall 2012 newsletter](#)

[⬆ back to top](#)

Make a Donation

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Congress in Anaheim. [Read more](#)

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Navigation

Curriculum Information

[Advising Information](#)

[Curriculum Information](#)

[Concentrations](#)

[Course Schedules](#)

[Degree Information](#)

News & Activities

[Clubs](#)

[News & Features](#)

[Newsletters](#)

Resources & Opportunities

[Faculty and Office Hours](#)

[Career Paths](#)

[Resource Links](#)

[Alumni Spotlight](#)

[Internships & Senior Project](#)

[Scholarships](#)

Listening to Students

[College Based Fees](#)

[RPTA Department > Fall 2012 Newsletter](#)

Fall 2012 Newsletter

Live It, Protect It, Explore It!



[View all Newsletters](#)

RHO PHI LAMBDA DAZZLES IN FALL

By Anthonia Edgren (RPTA '13), Editor, The Report

Rho Phi Lambda, RPTA's honors society, is consistently recognized for reinforcing academic commitment and success and has been known for its highly anticipated career fair each winter. As mentioned above, Rho Phi Lambda has taken that success to a new level in being named the 2012 NRPA Outstanding Student Club. This award was made possible because of Rho Phi's dedication to developing future industry leaders and providing students with industry and professional opportunities as demonstrated by their annual career fairs.



Rho Phi Lambda also initiated eight new members on November 14th, 2012. The initiation and festivities were held at the Granada Hotel and Bistro in Downtown San Luis Obispo. Attendees enjoyed a quaint candlelit atmosphere accompanied by delicious hors d'oeuvres and a celebration of their dedication to scholarship, leadership and service.

Rho Phi Lambda capped off fall quarter with a Holiday Study Break in an effort to relax just a little and enjoy some good holiday treats and time with friends before finals week commenced.

ADDITIONAL LINKS

[Contact Information](#)

[Advisory Council](#)

[Graduate Program](#)

[How to Enroll](#)

[Request Info](#)

[Annual Career Fair - Organizational Registration](#)

[Where in the world is RPTA?](#)

[Make a Donation](#)



NEWS & EVENTS

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Rho Phi Lambda's anticipated Career Fair will be occurring in Winter Quarter! So, get your resumes ready and professional attire ironed as big connections, internships and job opportunities await!

[Back to Fall 2012 newsletter](#)

[⬆ back to top](#)

Make a Donation

[Make a donation to the Recreation, Parks, & Tourism Administration Department!](#)

Congress in Anaheim. [Read more](#)

RPTA alumna Amy Lepp and RPTA's chapter of Rho Phi Lambda, the major's honors society, received awards at the 2012 NRPA Annual Congress in Anaheim. [Read more](#)

Dr. Bill Hendricks was named one of two 2011-2012 Distinguished Scholarship Award winners. Hendricks was honored with a reception in May 2012 and will be recognized again at both commencement in June 2012 and convocation in September 2012. [Read more](#)

Navigation
Curriculum Information
Advising Information
Curriculum Information
Concentrations
Course Schedules
Degree Information
News & Activities
Clubs
News & Features
Newsletters
Resources & Opportunities
Faculty and Office Hours
Career Paths
Resource Links
Alumni Spotlight
Internships & Senior Project
Scholarships
Listening to Students
College Based Fees

RPTA Department > Fall 2012 Newsletter

Fall 2012 Newsletter

Live It, Protect It, Explore It!



[View all Newsletters](#)

PARTING WORDS FROM DR. JACOBS

By *Anthonia Edgren (RPTA '13), Editor, The Report*

As Dr. Jacobs prepared for his new adventure in Michigan as the Executive Director of Camp Henry, I sat down with him for an interview so that he could share some final thoughts.

Q: What will you miss most?

"The thing I will miss most about Cal Poly is the students. I never had a favorite class, the subject didn't matter. It was the 10 weeks that I got to spend with students, learning and getting to know them that I enjoyed."



Q: What would you want to be remembered for?

"I would want to be remembered as a faculty member who genuinely cared about the students."

Q: What is your message to students?

"I encourage students to make whatever space they are in more positive. That when you walk into a room, you make it happier."

Q: Everyone knows you for the compassion and energy you have, what is your secret?

"I have genuinely appreciated what opportunities I have had to learn alongside students. It takes a willingness to be vulnerable, you can't fake it. Students are smart, and they can smell fake from a mile away. I am real with students, and I'm honest. I am first to admit it if my day isn't going so well. I am comfortable with where I am in my life and who I am, and students should be comfortable as them."

Q: Is there anything else you would like to add?

"I would say that, whoever joins the RPTA faculty falls in love with the place as much as I did. I hope that the new faculty can fall in love with San Luis Obispo and the opportunity they have to be in such a wonderful place with such wonderful students."

ADDITIONAL LINKS

Contact Information
Advisory Council
Graduate Program
How to Enroll
Request Info
Annual Career Fair - Organizational Registration
Where in the world is RPTA?
Make a Donation



NEWS & EVENTS

Dr. Marni Goldenberg was honored at the President's Community Service Awards with the 2013 Service Learning Award for her work in partnering her classes with community organizations. [Read more](#)

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This quote from Marianne Williamson summarizes my closing thoughts for students:

"Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous? Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone. And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others."

[Back to Fall 2012 newsletter](#)

[⬆ back to top](#)

Make a Donation

[Make a donation to the Recreation, Parks, & Tourism Administration Department!](#)

Congress in Anaheim. [Read more](#)

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Navigation

Curriculum Information

[Advising Information](#)

[Curriculum Information](#)

[Concentrations](#)

[Course Schedules](#)

[Degree Information](#)

News & Activities

[Clubs](#)

[News & Features](#)

[Newsletters](#)

Resources & Opportunities

[Faculty and Office Hours](#)

[Career Paths](#)

[Resource Links](#)

[Alumni Spotlight](#)

[Internships & Senior Project](#)

[Scholarships](#)

Listening to Students

[College Based Fees](#)

[RPTA Department > Fall 2012 Newsletter](#)

Fall 2012 Newsletter

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[View all Newsletters](#)

MEET THE STAFF OF "THE REPORT"

Staff for "The Report" are nominated by RPTA faculty for demonstrating excellent writing skills in RPTA classes. Student writers then coordinate with the editor and faculty advisor Dr. Brian Greenwood to develop and write articles.

The editor for 2021-2013 is **Anthonia "Toni" Edgren** (RPTA '13). This is Toni's third year as editor!

Kevin Mould (RPTA '14) and **Hannah Baker** (RPTA '13) are returning staff members who began in Fall 201, and Winter 2012, respectively. **Laurel Thomson** (RPTA '15) began this fall as a new staff member. Welcome, Laurel!

Here's more about the staff:

Hannah Baker (RPTA '13), Staff Writer

Baker spent a good part of her younger years growing up near the beach in Santa Cruz, CA, then moved up north to the small foothill town of Nevada City, CA. She is most happy spending time in the beautiful outdoors, whether it be in a garden, in the redwoods, or in the ocean! Her true passion lies in the preservation of the environment as well as sustainable practices. Baker hopes to only broaden her knowledge of these areas of study throughout the rest of her years here at Poly. Having recently switched into the RPTA major, getting the chance to meet the faculty in the department and learn alongside fellow RPTA students, has been "the best experience I've had yet at Cal Poly!"



ADDITIONAL LINKS

[Contact Information](#)

[Advisory Council](#)

[Graduate Program](#)

[How to Enroll](#)

[Request Info](#)

[Annual Career Fair - Organizational Registration](#)

[Where in the world is RPTA?](#)

[Make a Donation](#)



NEWS & EVENTS

Dr. Marni Goldenberg was honored at the President's Community Service Awards with the 2013 Service Learning Award for her work in partnering her classes with community organizations. [Read more](#)

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Anthonia Edgren (RPTA '13), Editor

Edgren is a third year RPTA student concentrating in Sport Management and Special Events. She has been on The Report staff for three years and truly enjoys the opportunity to be Editor. Edgren hopes to turn her love of sports and communication into a career with either her hometown team, the San Diego Chargers, or a sports broadcasting network such as ESPN. In her free time, her favorite activities are running in Poly Canyon, indoor cycling and line dancing at the Grad.



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Kevin Mould (RPTA '14), Staff Writer

Mould is excited to be a part of The Report staff. A second-year student from Mountain View, Mould's concentration is Sport Management, a tribute to his love for the San Jose Sharks. Why he chose RPTA: "All through high school I knew I wanted to do something related to sports business, and this seemed like the perfect way to do that!"

Laurel Thomson (RPTA '15)

Thomson, a 2nd year RPTA student, spent her childhood in Roseville, CA. Choosing the RPTA department was "one of the best decisions in her life," and from the very first day in RPTA 101, Thomson knew she was in the right place. It's a perfect match for her, and with her degree, she aspires to travel the world and work in either Event or Resort Management. Thomson is thrilled to have the opportunity to join The Report, and is looking forward to the years to come.



If you have ideas for stories, ideas about how to improve The Report, and/or feedback about the current or past issues, please feel free to email us at rptanewsletter@gmail.com.

[Back to Fall 2012 newsletter](#)

[↩ back to top](#)

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