



# ALUMNI News

## UPCOMING EVENTS



Save the Date:

### September 11

❖ Join us for a day of honor and recognition as we remember our Founder's Nehemiah and Permelia Atwood with a morning program for our freshmen students. Also, come back to campus to hear from Dr. Robert Lawson '73 and be part of our 2018 Alumni Awards and Educators' Hall of Fame Inductions & Ceremony. This year's recipients are: Distinguished Alumnus Award – Chad Lambert '94; Atwood Achievement Award – Jessica Wickline Lawhon '12; University of Rio Grande Alumni Award – Ellen Brasel '93; and University of Rio Grande Staff Award – Vicki Crabtree. The Educators' Hall of Fame Class of 2018 is Linda Bauer '60 and T. Michael Rhodes '67.

❖ We will also have our Rio Grande Alumni Association Annual Council Meeting for anyone interested in joining!

### November 16 & 17

❖ Homecoming 2018



## Alumni Heritage Room

If you have Rio Pride, your name needs to be represented in our Alumni Heritage Room. Gifts and pledges will be accepted online and by mail through June 30, 2018 – so don't wait!

Support from alumni, students, parents, faculty and staff will help us reach our goal of \$125,000.

Make your contribution online at [info.rio.edu/alumniroom](http://info.rio.edu/alumniroom) and plan to join us during Homecoming Weekend (November 17, 2018) for the official Alumni Heritage Room dedication.

By supporting this project with a gift of \$1,000, \$5,000, or \$10,000, you may choose to receive recognition in numerous ways:

- Individual name recognition
- Greek Organization recognition
- Class Year recognition
- Memorial name recognition
- Coach and/or team recognition
- Honor a Professor with recognition
- School or program recognition



### Contact Information:

**Delyssa Edwards**, Director of Alumni Relations  
[dedwards@rio.edu](mailto:dedwards@rio.edu) – Phone: 740-245-7431

**Kara Willis**, Executive Director of Institutional Advancement  
[kwillis@rio.edu](mailto:kwillis@rio.edu) – Phone: 740-245-7221

**Website:** [www.rio.edu/alumni](http://www.rio.edu/alumni)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/RioAlum](http://www.facebook.com/RioAlum)



## RIO CHAPTER EVENTS



407 students received their degrees Saturday during the Commencement Ceremony at the University of Rio Grande and Rio Grande Community College.

### **Rio Graduates Prepare for the Future**

The University of Rio Grande and Rio Grande Community College are proud to recognize the Class of 2018 as official graduates. 407 students received their degrees Saturday at the Commencement Ceremony on campus. President Dr. Michelle Johnston said the class has thrived while at Rio and she is excited to see them excel in life.

“I am so proud of all that these students have accomplished in their time at Rio and I am confident they are ready to become leaders in their careers and communities. They have worked hard to reach this milestone in their lives,” Johnston said. “We have enjoyed having them as part of our Rio community, and I thank them for making our campuses a part of their educational experiences and wish them the best of luck. Even as they move forward to the next chapter of their lives, they will always be part of our Rio Family.”

Ohio Senator Bob Peterson, who represents the 17th Ohio Senate District and serves as the President Pro Tempore of the state senate, was the commencement speaker for this year’s ceremony. The senator is an 8th generation farmer in Fayette County and is involved in several senate committees dedicated to a wide range of topics including agriculture, tax reform, veterans’ affairs and public safety. Peterson has also earned numerous awards for his service efforts in the Statehouse. He said he encourages the students to be leaders in their fields and communities.

“It has been an honor to share this moment with the graduates and their families. My college career gave me an opportunity to discover who I was and who I wanted to become. It has impacted my life in many positive ways, and I wish the same for these graduates as they begin their own careers,” Peterson said. “You learn your whole life. There is a saying that learners will inherit the earth because you have to grow as the world changes. I encourage these graduates to continue seeking knowledge as they move forward in their lives. I congratulate them for this important achievement, and know they will succeed in all they set out to accomplish.”



**Cincinnati, OH**



**Columbus, OH**



**Ashland, KY**

**Join us in Cleveland on July 14th!**

# FEATURED Alumni



## Patrick Young '80

Young is the Technology and Engineering Director for Seal Bond Adhesives, Sealants and Coatings located in Western

Michigan. He provides leadership, direction and mentorship to all the technical developments, product development, and engineering improvements for the company.

Young graduated in 1980 from the University of Rio Grande with a B.S. in Chemistry and a double minor in math and business. After graduation, Young went to Ohio University and obtained a Ph.D. in Chemistry with a concentration in Polymer Science and Analytical Chemistry.

He then began his career with DuPont in Richmond, Virginia in 1984 working with Kevlar®, Nomex® and Tyvek® high performance fibers. In 1988, he transferred to DuPont in Circleville, Ohio to do product development in Mylar® and Kapton® films. In 2005, he transferred back to Richmond, Virginia to do product development work in Tyvek® for medical packaging and finally in the Building Sciences Organization.

During his 33 year career with DuPont, he was instrumental in developing the Mylar® polyester

film base used in bar code labels and in Kodak's Ektatherm™ thermal transfer ribbons for digital photography. He also developed a Mylar® capacitor film product used in high voltage flyback transformers that was sold in Asia to produce computer monitors.

While in Dupont's Tyvek® R&D organization he created an improved Tyvek® bacterial barrier for the medical packaging market and a new child resistant senior friendly non-woven barrier for pharmaceutical blister packages.

His most recent research has been with DuPont's Building Sciences business where he successfully invented and commercialized Tyvek® Thermawrap R5.0™, Tyvek® Fluid Applied WB, Tyvek® Fluid Applied Flashing and Joint Compound+, and Tyvek® Fluid Applied WB+™. The products and technologies he has developed to date have resulted in over three quarters of a billion dollars in revenue to DuPont.

Patrick is married to Susan, and they have one daughter, Alana, and three grandchildren. On September 1, 2017, he retired from DuPont and moved his family to Western Michigan to continue his career with Seal Bond Adhesives, Sealants and Coatings.

**Class years ending in an '8' or '3' - You are celebrating a milestone this year, and we want you to come back to Homecoming to commemorate your anniversary!**

Here are the class years we would love involvement from! Of course, EVERYONE IS INVITED back - we just plan to do add a little something for these alums!

- |                 |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 2008 - 10 years | 1988 - 30 years | 1968 - 50 years |
| 2003 - 15 years | 1983 - 35 years | 1963 - 55 years |
| 1998 - 20 years | 1978 - 40 years | 1958 - 60 years |
| 1993 - 25 years | 1973 - 45 years | 1953 - 65 years |

***If this is your year, make sure your address and contact info is updated so we can send you more details!***





## Storm The School

think about what they want to be in the future and plans numerous class activities to teach them the importance of working hard to accomplish their goals. "I believe education might be the most important thing my students will ever own. They are constantly challenging each other to reading wars and math fact trivia. They love

The University of Rio Grande and Rio Grande Community College are taking the initiative to educate young students in Southeast Ohio about college readiness. Because of programs such as College Credit Plus, which provides eligible high school students the chance to enroll in college courses, the faculty, staff and administration at Rio believe it is never too early to begin preparing students for higher education. Director of Alumni Relations Delyssa Edwards said she feels it is important for Rio to provide this information to the youth of the community.

"Higher education is an important topic, and it's never too early to start thinking about the future. Choosing college can be a tough decision, and waiting until the last minute to start looking into different schools and programs will make it even harder. College readiness and being prepared from an earlier age can help the students and their families find the college that is the right fit for them," Edwards said. "Rio is such a staple for the community and we want to set a positive example of higher education for children in the area. We're a very community-minded institution and want to help the children in our community succeed in their futures. From my own experience, I know college readiness helped me look through different schools and programs close to home, and I found the quiet, small town atmosphere I was looking for in Rio. Being prepared really made that decision easier for me."

Mattie Lanham, a 2017 graduate from Rio's Bunce School of Education, is a third grade teacher for Meigs Intermediate School. She said encourages her students to

talking about their futures, and I love to listen to them," Lanham said. "My students can tell anyone how proud I am to be a Rio graduate, and that I'm always telling them that it's never too early to think about what they want to do when they grow up. Higher education is a frequent topic in my third graders conversations. Education is something that can never be taken from you, and I remind them of that daily."

As one effort to continue promoting college readiness, Edwards has challenged the alumni from the Bunce School of Education to be leaders in the conversation with the Storm the School Initiative. The initiative encourages alumni to take photos of themselves sharing their own Rio Pride with their classes, and set an example as successful college graduates for the students. Edwards said the initiative will also be a race between participating alumni to see who can gain the most "likes" on Facebook.

"I wanted to give our alumni an opportunity to show off their Rio Pride and encourage their students to start thinking about college. Plus, a little competition makes the initiative even more fun for both the teachers and students," Edwards said. "Teachers are major role models in children's lives. When they get excited about college and their *alma maters* in the classroom, they are starting the conversation about the possibility of higher education for their students."

For more information about college readiness or the Storm the School Initiative, contact Delyssa Edwards at (740) 245-7431 or [dedwards@rio.edu](mailto:dedwards@rio.edu).





## Bob Evans Restaurant Donates Land to the University

Bob Evans Restaurants (Bob Evans) has donated approximately 270 acres of land across from the company's Homestead Farm to the University of Rio Grande, while keeping the property on which the restaurant and farm itself is located. Bob Evans will maintain Farm operations and Farm-sponsored events, including the beloved Bob Evans Farm Festival, for years to come. The Bob Evans Farm Festival, which is scheduled to celebrate its 48th year on October 12-14, 2018, will continue. The main area of the Farm remains with the company, and the University has committed to share use of the donated land for events. Guest-favorite destinations on the Farm's main property, such as the Adamsville Log Cabin Village, pond fishing and the Grist Mill, also will stay with the Bob Evans Farm.



- Any Ohio Valley Bank customer can upgrade their debit card to a University of Rio Grande design for \$10. Of that, \$5 goes back to the school.
- Ohio Valley Bank currently offers 28 school and charity cards through its Community First Debit Card Program
- The Rio card was introduced in early 2015 and was the 5th card debuted
- The Rio card is the only collegiate card offered through the program
- The program was created in 2014 as a way for Ohio Valley Bank to directly and positively impact its communities
- Both the University of Rio Grande and Rio Grande Community College benefit from the program.
- You can see all school/charity cards offered at <https://www.ovbc.com/communitycards>

# Alumni Heritage Room Dedication November 17



## PLEASE UPDATE YOUR INFO WITH OUR OFFICE!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grad Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rio Graduate?  Yes  No Grad Year: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive the newsletter by email

I am interested in being an Alumni Council member

I no longer wish to receive the newsletter

I would like to be a 'Featured Alumni'

I am interested in a Chapter event in my area

### CLASS NOTES

What news do you wish to share with us? \_\_\_\_\_

### SUPPORT

Gifts to Rio are tax-deductible! If you are interested in giving, you can make a check payable to the University of Rio Grande, or make a gift online: [www.rio.edu/donate](http://www.rio.edu/donate)