

June 3, 2013

Countdown to Riverside City College's 100th Anniversary

The 1979 Riverside City College Alumna of the Year was Edna Bailey Lockhart. She was a member of the class of 1929 from what was then called Riverside Junior College. She received her Alumna of the Year honor on June 13, 1979 at RCC graduation exercises at Wheelock Field. This date was almost fifty years to the day since she received her Associate of Arts degree from RJC and one day after her seventieth birthday. The photo below is from the June 1, 1979 "Viewpoints" student newspaper.



The photo below is from the June 1979 "RCC Reports" District publication.



BUSY LADY — 1979 Alumna of the Year Edna Bailey Lockhart has found that retirement has not brought an end to her involvement in community and even professional affairs. She will receive her alumna plaque at graduation exercises June 13, fifty years almost to the day after she received her own Associate in Arts degree from what was then Riverside Junior College.

Edna Bailey came to California at the age of three and attended Riverside elementary and secondary schools graduating in 1927 from Poly High School which was then located across the street from the RJC Quadrangle. While she attended RJC, she served as President of the Associated Women Students which was about the highest position a female student could aspire to in those days. She was also a member of the Executive Board, Y.W.C.A., the Glee Club, and was Chairman of the World Fellowship. She was presented a cup by the Riverside Lions Club for her services to the college. She remembered RJC with affection as a small school where everybody knew everybody else, student and teacher alike. She told of how students and staff all pitched in to prepare the food and set the tables for the Annual Awards Breakfast. She said that Frances M. Fraser (Social Sciences, Dean of Women 1923-1956) had the most influence on her of anyone besides her parents. Others that she fondly recalled were faculty members R.P. Anderson (English 1916-1950), Earl McDermont (History/Administration 1921-1958), Norman Spohr (Music 1927-1940) and Archie Twogood (Physical Science 1922-1956). Fraser is seen in the large photo below. In the smaller four photos are: Anderson (top left), McDermont (top right), Spohr (bottom left) and Twogood (bottom right).



After graduating from RJC, she went on to U.C. Berkley for her baccalaureate degree. She then did graduate studies at Claremont, Redlands, Stanford and also at UC Berkley & UCLA. She began a career in education in the Midland School in what is now the Moreno Valley Unified School District. After two years she transferred to the Riverside Unified School District where she would work for the next 39 years. She taught a number of years in Riverside elementary schools before moving into administration. She was the Director of Attendance and Child Welfare from 1942 to 1974 and from 1945 to 1970 she doubled as Director of the Consultant Service (Individual Guidance).

Somehow she found time for leadership positions in a variety of community organizations. She served as president of the Community Planning Council, Family Service Association and Town and Gown. She was a member of the executive committee of the Citizens University Committee, a director of the Children's Home Society, the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Below is a photo of Edna Bailey Lockhart as a RJC student from the 1929 "*Tequesquite*" yearbook and a photo from 1979 when she was awarded her RCC Alumnus of the Year honor.



It is 2 years and 40 weeks until RCC's 100th Anniversary on March 13, 2016.

The Riverside City College Instructional Media Center is bringing you this five year countdown to RCC's 100th Anniversary. Our intention is to give everyone a weekly glance at the many people and events that have been a part of the college.

Our thanks go to the RCC Digital Library Archives and the District's Office of Strategic Communications and Relations for allowing us to use their photo and newspaper collections. Thanks as well to all of the RCC students and Faculty Advisors that were a part of the yearbook and newspaper staffs. Thanks also to Tom Johnson and Gilbert Jimenez who wrote "the book" about RCC's history. "Riverside City College 1916-1981- A 65 Year History" is available in the RCC Digital Library.

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