August 5, 2013

Countdown to Riverside City College's 100th Anniversary

In 1963 Fred Oldendorf was named the fifth RCCD Alumnus of the Year. While at RJC Oldendorf took what was called the Commercial Course. He was a member of the Junior Lions, “Tequesquite” yearbook Circulation Manager, Class Vice President and played on the football team. Oldendorf and his wife Edith, graduated in 1929 from what was then known as Riverside Junior College. Below is a photo of the RJC Football team printed in the 1929 “Tequesquite” yearbook.

He began his career in 1929 as a clerk in the Operating Department of the California Electric Power company. During his 30+ year career with California Electric, Oldendorf advanced to the office of President and Director in 1961. When the company merged with Southern California Edison in 1963, he became a Vice President and Director of SCE. After retiring in 1971, Oldendorf served on the Board of Directors of the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District. For over 20 years, he served as a director on the advisory board of Pacific National Bank. In 1982 Oldendorf attended a luncheon held at the newly established RCC Hall of Fame in the Bradshaw Student Center. He joined eight other former RCCD Alumni of the Year in what was perhaps the largest gathering of these individuals at one time. The photo below appeared in the December 1982 “RCC Reports” District publication. Oldendorf is in the top row, third in from the right.
Below are photos of Oldendorf from the 1929 “Tequesquite” yearbook and a 1964 photo published in the October 31, 1990 “Viewpoints” student newspaper. Much of the material of this article was adapted from that same “Viewpoints” article written by RCC student Erica L. Jackson.

It is 2 years and 31 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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