

# Golf tournaments draw challengers

The "Founder's Cup" golf tournament rased more than \$13,000 this year while providing an enjoyable morning of friendly competition at Hood River's Indian Creek Golf Course in August.

And, the foundation added a new event in May, the "Tree Top Disk Golf" tournament, in partnership with CGCC Student Life and Northern Wasco Park & Rec District.

First place teams of the 11th annual Founder's Cup August 7 were Rowe and Deming (in photo, at right) and Charles K. Toole, Attorney (at left). Rowe and Deming team members Paul Thompson, Mark Mason, Sid Rowe and Sam Krentz, took first place for the lowest gross score. Dave Cochenour, Owen Smith, Rick Cyphers, and Chuck Toole won first place for the lowest net score.



FOUNDER'S CUP winning teams Charles K. Toole, left, and Rowe & Deming, August 7, 2010.

Louie Buzas photos



Kyle Van Cleave and Jennifer Botts help in disk golf tournament, May 2010.

Michal Kawka photo



Columbia State Bank was the presenting sponsor of this year's golf tournament. Twenty-four teams, sponsors, and volunteers helped to raise \$13,228 for the CGCC Foundation Scholarship Fund.

The 2011 Founder's Cup is Saturday, August 6 at Indian Creek Golf Course. To

enter a team, please contact the foundation at (541) 506-6111.

"Tree Top Classic Disc Golf Tournament," held May 8 at Sorosis Park in The Dalles, benefited CGCC Foundation and N. Wasco Co. Parks & Rec District.

The event returns in May 2011.

First place winners were Victor Cervantes, Div. I; Craig Nielson, Div. II; and Greg Jensen, Div. III. Max Dimmick had the longest drive, and Mike Robarge was closest to the pin.

# Federal grant to boost accreditation

It's been just over four years now since the Columbia Gorge Community College Board of Education directed staff and faculty to embark upon independent accreditation, one of the most ambitious assignments in college history.

Ever since its origins in 1976, Columbia Gorge Community College has been accredited through Portland Community College. This is still the case today, but if current plans hold, that will all change in the spring of 2012, when the college undergoes its final review for independent accreditation through the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.

"Independent accreditation brings new expectations and responsibilities," said Dan Spatz, foundation director.

As part of the process, faculty and staff are researching and writing a series of "self-studies," essentially institutional self-examinations that identify strengths as well as opportunities for improvement.

Several of the new responsibilities – areas the college needs to establish or expand upon to become independently accredited – involve Student Services, Resource Development and the college foundation.

The college must establish a registrar's position, bolster its capacity to conduct institutional research (gathering, analysis

## Title III

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contributions, it will qualify for \$200,000 in Title III funds which must be dedicated toward a permanent endowment.

"College endowments, where the principal is preserved in perpetuity and only the income is spent, provide a crucial source of financial stability for community colleges and universities around the world," Spatz explained.

"Endowments help academic institutions weather difficult economic times by providing an independent source of income for scholarships, faculty support and facility improvements. This year's award of Title III funding, with its \$200,000 endowment challenge, is another crucial step toward long-term fiscal stability, not just for the foundation but for the institution as a whole," Spatz added.

and presentation of pertinent data) and expand its fundraising capacity.

These and other needs – not all related to independent accreditation – were compiled into a "comprehensive development plan" presented as an integral part of the college's \$2 million funding application to the U.S. Department of Education's "Title III – Strengthening Institutions" program this past August.

"Endowed gifts" differ from scholarship contributions because they cannot be "used up" over time since the principal cannot be spent.

Endowed gifts may honor individuals, families or communities. Gifts of any size can be added to the existing college foundation endowment fund; alternately, individuals, businesses or organizations can establish a named endowment and designate the use of future earnings, which can be fulfilled over a period of years.

As the old year winds to a close, the foundation invites people to consider an endowed gift to help meet the Title III endowment challenge.

For information, contact Darlene Marick, resource development coordinator, (541) 506-6111, write to Columbia Gorge Community College Foundation in care of 400 East Scenic Drive, The Dalles, Oregon 97058, or e-mail foundation@cgcc.cc.or.us.

The college's formal candidacy for independent accreditation was a key determining factor in its ability to qualify for this federal funding, which is designed to help colleges in augmenting personnel, equipment and services over a five-year period. Title III grants are highly competitive: Columbia Gorge was one of only two community colleges funded in Oregon in 2010.



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# Kemp Lodge #181 gives \$50,000

When members of Kemp Lodge 181, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in Odell, decided to support Columbia Gorge Community College Foundation early in 2010, they wished to make their \$25,000 donation anonymously. The foundation complied, honoring Lodge representatives only with a quiet, unpublicized ceremony. Dr. Frank Toda, college president, recognized Kemp Lodge this past March with a Foundation Compass Club "True North Award," the first time he had bestowed this on any donor.

But now it's time to go public.

This fall, members of Kemp Lodge 181 decided to make a second contribution of \$25,000 – for a grand total of \$50,000 in 2010 – and this time they've authorized the college foundation to publicize both gifts, in order to make the public aware of the club's contributions and also as an invitation to others to follow Kemp Lodge's good example.

"As a result of state funding reductions, the college relies more than ever before on the foundation to provide student scholarships," said Dan Spatz, foundation director. "At one time the college was able to support scholarships largely



KEMP LODGE #181 (Odd Fellows and Rebekahs) join college officials following presentation of their second \$25,000 contribution this year. Back row from left: Joan Ewing, Marilyn Kaufman, Doris Messenger, Olivera Hall, Ted Weber, college board members Dr. Ernest Keller and Dave Fenwick, CGCC president Dr. Frank Toda, CGCC Foundation board president Dennis Whitehouse, Gloria Arnold, Emily Phillips, Mary Patterson. Front row: Gladys Castle, Marylee Bork, Olive Fletcher, Joyce Allen, Mildred Goe, Beulah Herman, Betty Kollas. CGCC Foundation awarded \$90,662 in scholarships during the 2009-10 school year. Dan Spatz photo

through its general fund, but we can no longer look to this source given all the other needs of the college. That means it's up to the foundation to provide scholarship support."

Kemp Lodge's invitation to other

donors is especially important this coming year, Spatz noted, because the college foundation can use donations as match for two other funding sources, depending upon donors' intent in giving.

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## Three join foundation board

Three new members, Megan Callow, Mary Gumm, and Juanita Neitling, are joining the Columbia Gorge Community College Foundation Board of Directors.

Writing instructor Megan Callow taught English and other subjects at high schools in Portland and New Mexico before joining the CGCC faculty almost a year ago. Megan earned an Associate of Arts degree in General



**Callow**



**Gumm**



**Neitling**

Studies at New York University; a Bachelor of Arts degree in English/Literature at the University of California in Berkeley; and a Master of Arts degree from St. John's College

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## Federal funds open avenue to benefit college

Columbia Gorge Community College gained an important resource to assist its goal of independent accreditation with announcement this fall of \$2 million in funding from the U.S. Department of Education.

Under a Title III "Strengthening Institutions" grant, the college will receive \$400,000 annually in each of the next five years (story, page 4). Among other benefits, the grant creates a five-year, \$200,000 endowment challenge. If the foundation can match that challenge dollar-for-dollar with

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# Miller Challenge would raise \$100,000 for college scholarships

The 2010-11 academic year marks the third and final matching challenge presented to Columbia Gorge Community College Foundation, and its counterparts at Oregon's 16 other community colleges, by the James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation of Portland.

Beginning in 2008, the Miller Foundation challenged the foundation to raise \$50,000 in new donations, or increased donations from existing donors, within a 12-month period ending on March 31. Miller Foundation's mission is "to en-

hance the quality of life of Oregonians through support of arts and education."

"Each year for the first two years, the college foundation has been able to meet the Miller challenge thanks to the generosity of our donors," said Dan Spatz, foundation director.

"All donations count, as long as they're directed toward college scholarships and represent new or expanded contributions," he added.

While the Miller Foundation intends to continue its support of Oregon's com-

munity colleges, it will be considering different strategies after the current scholarship challenge concludes on March 31, 2011. Columbia Gorge Community College Foundation must raise \$50,000 in new or expanded scholarship contributions by that date to qualify for the Miller match of \$50,000.

"This comes at a time of greatly diminished state support, which in turn reduces our general fund's capacity for scholarships," Spatz noted. "The college foundation must make up the differ-

ence." State funding to Oregon's community colleges is now at the lowest level since 2001, even as more people than ever before are trying to enroll in community college.

"Across America, people recognize community colleges' essential role in helping rebuild our economy by enabling students to grow their careers, enter new occupations, or pursue four-year degrees," Spatz said.

"The national spotlight is focused on community colleges. But we can only

live up to these expectations through the generosity of contributors, giving in partnership with organizations such as the Miller Foundation to support the growing need for scholarship support."

The Miller Foundation honors the philanthropic legacy of James F. and

Marion L. Miller. James Miller was born near Portland in 1905, beginning his career as an errand runner at Blyth and Co. (predecessor to UBS Financial Services) at age 14. Without much formal education, he became the company's president in the early 1960s.

## Board's new members have lifelong commitment to learning

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in Santa Fe, N. M. Reflecting on her first year at CGCC, Megan says, "I am constantly learning more about how to teach. I have made an important discovery — that the difference between the teacher and learner is much more minute than I had thought. I'm a learner, too, and my subject is effective teaching."

Megan and her husband Adam Morse live in Hood River.

Mary Gumm is a familiar face to many in the region.

Mary came to the Northwest in 1998 when Sprint transferred her to Hood River from Kansas City to assume the position of manager of executive services, working with state and federal regulatory agencies throughout the U.S. After several years, she was promoted to manager of government affairs, directing local issues pertaining to a public utility in the five-county Gorge district and often throughout the Northwest.

Her non-profit board positions include past president, Rotary Club of White Salmon/Bingen; board member, United Way of the Columbia Gorge; executive committee and Government Affairs Committee Chair, Hood River County Chamber of Commerce; treasurer, Sprint political action committee, and many community events and committees. She



**Fadness**



**Lewis**

### Fadness, Lewis retire from CGCC Foundation

The foundation board honored two retiring directors at the annual meeting Oct. 20. Vice president Dennis Whitehouse presented a certificate of appreciation to Susan Lewis who retired after five years representing faculty. Susan is Instructional Coordinator at CGCC.

Laurie Fadness served 14 years as a board director and past president. Laurie has devoted many hours to the board, while also contributing her talents on the scholarship committee and during the annual Founder's Cup golf tournament.

also volunteered as a senior examiner for Sprint's Malcolm Baldrige Excellence program. Her special skills include public affairs, business development, marketing and strategic planning.

After retiring from CenturyLink in

2009, Mary has focused on managing operations for the White Buffalo Wine Bar & Bistro, which she opened in 2008. She lives in Mt. Hood on a small farm and enjoys all the activities associated with her rural community. She has one daughter, Sara Patterson, who lives in Hood River and manages the White Buffalo Wine Bar & Bistro, and a granddaughter, Ruby Leigh. Mary graduated from the University of Arkansas with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration.

Originally from Stevenson, Juanita Neitling was raised on a farm near Goldendale. She graduated from Goldendale High School and the University of Washington, where she earned a degree in chemical engineering. Juanita's career in the pulp and paper industry progressed into management in California, Louisiana, Ohio, Oregon and New Hampshire.

## Foundation honors trio in '10 graduation

The 2010 Faculty Excellence Award honored Alan Bailey, Renewable Energy Technology instructor. Char Lavender received the first annual Staff Excellence Award. Outstanding Graduate was Nicole Hillier. Each received \$500 checks from CGCC Foundation during graduation in June.



**Bailey**



**Lavender**



**Hillier**

Her career was unusually challenging since women engineers were traditionally restricted in the industrial setting. For Juanita, the excitement of learning never stops. After retirement, Juanita and husband Dave returned to The Dalles — and Juanita went back to school. She has completed 87 credits at Columbia Gorge Community College in myriad subjects. "I strongly support CGCC in its mission to provide affordable college-level education to the mid-Columbia area," she said. "Seeing CGCC grow and become ever more relevant to our community and its future warms my heart." Juanita volunteers at Maryhill Museum working on the Native American collection, and serves on the board for the Yakama Legends Casino. She is an enrolled member of the Yakama Nation. Juanita's hobby at home is a renewed interest in cooking and baking. Dave gladly volunteers to be her taste-tester.

## Student visits wind conference

Nick Mohrbacher was aiming high long before his graduation from Columbia Gorge Community College.

Setting his sights on a dream career in wind energy, Nick enrolled in the Renewable Energy Technology training program, which prepares students for a broad range of industries.

With a scholarship from Vestas, a leading wind power producer, Nick had help with school expenses.

He graduated in June with an Associate of Applied Science degree, and shortly after, began working at the White Creek Wind Farm where he climbs several tow-



**Nick Mohrbacher**

ers daily. Heights are not a problem.

While at CGCC, Nick was selected to attend the American Wind Energy Association conference in Dallas, Texas, last May.

CGCC Foundation and enXco, a provider of wind operation and maintenance services, assisted with travel expenses.

The experience allowed Nick to study the latest turbine technologies, and he reported on his trip at the foundation's annual dinner meeting in October.

## Cultural Trust is key partner

Columbia Gorge Community College Foundation is a matching partner with the Oregon Cultural Trust, which means donations to the foundation and trust can benefit you in three different ways.

First, your CGCC Foundation donation and your Cultural Trust donation qualify for state and federal tax deductions.

CGCC Foundation is an Oregon non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization. Second, by matching your college foundation contribution with a gift to the Oregon Cultural Trust, you also receive a 100 percent Oregon State tax credit. And third, the Cultural Trust returns its contributions to the community through grants to local charitable organizations — such as the college foundation.

A gift to the Cultural Trust can reduce

taxes owed by up to \$500 for individuals, \$1,000 for couples filing jointly, and \$2,500 for corporations.

To qualify for the tax credit, match your cultural contributions to the CGCC Foundation (or other qualifying organizations) with a gift to the Oregon Cultural Trust. When you file your state tax return, claim your Cultural Trust donation as a cultural tax credit to reduce your Oregon tax bill.

Your first gift supports the foundation, and your second gift benefits cultural activities in every Oregon county.

What is a tax credit? Unlike a tax deduction that only reduces the amount of your taxable income, a tax credit reduces the amount of tax you owe. OCT advises donors to keep a record of contributions in personal tax files.

## Gift

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The first source is the James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation of Portland, which is now offering its third and final "Miller Challenge" to Oregon's 17 community colleges. (See related story, *this page*.) The Miller Foundation goal for Columbia Gorge Community College

Foundation is \$50,000, and the foundation has met this challenge in each of the past two years. Matching funds must be received by March 31, 2011.

"Kemp Lodge's first donation this year was instrumental in allowing us to meet the Miller Challenge for 2009-10," Spatz noted.

The second matching source is entirely new, and it's designed to match a different sort of donor intent. This is a

\$200,000, five-year endowment challenge made possible when the U.S. Department of Education approved the college's 2010 application for federal funding under the "Title III — Strengthening Institutions" program. The college foundation's goal is to raise \$40,000 each calendar year in order to meet the Title III program's matching requirements.

"While the Miller Foundation chal-

lenges colleges to generate — and expend — scholarship funds, Title III funding is designed to build the college foundation's permanent endowment," Spatz explained. The principal of "endowed" donations is preserved in perpetuity; the foundation may only use income generated by endowment principal for scholarships or other approved goals of the foundation mission, such as faculty support and facility improvements.

As the current calendar year winds down, there's no time like the present to consider a contribution to Columbia Gorge Community College Foundation. Whether donors wish their gifts to be used immediately, to support student

scholarships, or be added to the permanent endowment, the college foundation can leverage the value of donors' contributions by applying these gifts toward either the Miller Foundation or Title III matching sources — provided that the foundation is able to raise enough funds in time to make the respective deadlines this winter and early spring.

For information, call (541) 506-6111 or e-mail [foundation@cgcc.cc.or.us](mailto:foundation@cgcc.cc.or.us).