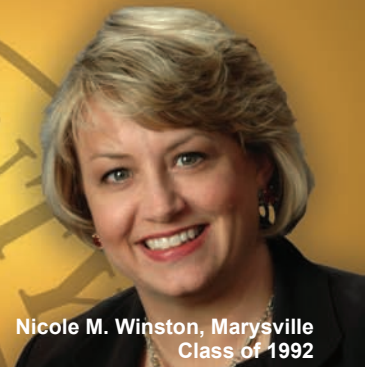


# Alumni Connection

WINTER 2010

A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS OF SC4



Nicole M. Winston, Marysville  
Class of 1992

## Alumnus profile: Charles Sharrow Savors his role in college's legacy

Charles Sharrow says he is proud to give back to SC4 for the education and opportunities it provided him.

Sharrow, 95, of Port Huron has more than 70 years of involvement with the college.

He graduated from what was then Port Huron Junior College in 1935 and transferred to the University of Detroit, where he earned his accounting certificate.

He got involved with the college again in 1961, while working at Detroit Edison, as a member of Future Plans for Port Huron Junior College.

The college was growing. "Our job was to decide should (the college) go outside of town and start a new community college, or should



Charles Sharrow

we try to extend it in Port Huron."

Sharrow said that committee made the right choice nearly 50 years ago, as evidenced by how SC4 has developed. "It's an honor to see the college grow like we thought it should."

Sharrow met his future wife, Evelyn, when they were students at the junior college.

They were married for 65 years. She passed away in 2006.

Through the SC4 Foundation, he established the Evelyn Sharrow Memorial Scholarship, which annually awards three scholarships of \$1,000 each to SC4 students.

For the complete version of this story, visit [www.sc4.edu/alumniprofiles](http://www.sc4.edu/alumniprofiles).

## Alumna profile: Michelle 'Miki' Jones Travels the world to help others

Working for the U.S. Department of State, SC4 alumna Michelle "Miki" Jones helps U.S. citizens find answers in foreign countries.

She has served in Warsaw, Poland; Dhaka, Bangladesh; and Port of Spain, Trinidad. Today, she is consul and principal officer at the U.S. Consulate in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

She works on cross-border, environmental, security and public affairs issues, and is the emergency contact for U.S. citizens there.

After earning her associate of arts degree from SC4, Jones transferred to Eastern Michigan University, where she earned a bachelor of science degree in English and



Michelle 'Miki' Jones

American languages and literature, as well as her secondary teaching certification.

She holds a master of arts degree in English from Acadia University in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Canada, and doctorate in English from the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada.

After a college teaching career in the United States and abroad, she joined the U.S. Foreign Service to combine traveling and teaching.

"A lot of the issues are basically the same all over the world, explaining the American story," she said.

For the complete version of this story, visit [www.sc4.edu/alumniprofiles](http://www.sc4.edu/alumniprofiles).

## Message from the alumni president

As alumni, you know just how important SC4 is in the lives of people every day.

The role of the SC4 Alumni Association is to inform and involve alumni and friends in supporting the college, and, in the process, develop lifelong relationships. One of the ways we do that is by keeping you



Denise M. Brooks

informed through venues such as the *Alumni Connection* newsletter.

Our community college offers opportunities to people of all backgrounds and ages. Today's student isn't always fresh out of high school; many adults are taking

the opportunity presented by the current economic challenges to redefine who they are and what they will do in the future.

For many people, SC4 is the first step to the rest of their career achievements. With short-term job-training programs, 37 associate degrees, 24 certificate programs, more than 55 programs that transfer to four-year colleges and universities, and even bachelor's or master's degrees available through seven university partners on the Port Huron campus — there is something for everyone at SC4.

The college also is playing a role in efforts to shape St. Clair County's economic future. SC4 leaders are among more than 100 people (including many SC4 alumni) on a steering committee to develop an action plan for economic development in the county.

Please keep in touch with us and let us know how you're doing by completing and returning the information form on Page 4 of this newsletter or updating us online at [www.sc4.edu/alumni](http://www.sc4.edu/alumni).

# News from SC4

## Message from the college president

Several initiatives announced in January at SC4 are helping us to better serve our students and community.

An SC4 delegation traveled to Qatar and discussed educational opportunities with leaders in the Middle Eastern country. Several high-ranking Qatari officials are SC4 alumni.



Dr. Kevin A. Pollock

On the visit with me were Board of Trustees Chair John D. Adair, Trustee Dr. Nicholas J. DeGrazia, Professor Robert Tansky and Professor Emeritus Dr. Thomas Mooney.

The visit, paid for by officials in Qatar, will lead to collaborations between SC4 and educational institutions in Qatar. Plans are being made for student and faculty exchanges and for students from Qatar to study English at SC4.

For discussions between the delegation and SC4 students, visit our Phi Theta Kappa blog at [www.sc4.edu/ptk](http://www.sc4.edu/ptk).

Also in January, we announced an Early College pilot program for Croswell-Lexington High School students.

This partnership will allow students to graduate from Croswell-Lexington Early College High School after five years with both a Cros-Lex high school diploma and an SC4 associate degree.

The goal is to increase the number of college graduates in Sanilac and St. Clair counties by bringing college classes to the students, who will have no SC4 tuition cost because it will be paid through the Croswell-Lexington school district.

January's SC4 Board of Trustees meeting saw approval for these revised mission and vision statements for SC4:

**Mission Statement** — St. Clair County Community College provides lifelong educational and enrichment opportunities.

**SC4 Vision** — St. Clair County Community College strives to be a leader in our community's renaissance by establishing dynamic partnerships and focused programs that are the top choice for students.

Nearly 60 faculty, staff and students participated in creating these statements.

We look forward to building on these exciting endeavors.

## SC4 group visits Qatar

From left, His Excellence Abdulla Bin Hamad Al-Attiyah, first deputy premier for the state of Qatar, minister of energy and industry, chairman of Qatar Petroleum and five-time president of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries; Mohamed Abdulla Al-Attyia, a Qatar Petroleum engineer; His Excellence Abdullah Khalid Al-Attiya, governor of Qatar Central Bank; SC4 Professor Robert Tansky; and His Excellence Abdulrahman Bin Hamad Al-Attiyah, secretary general of the Gulf Cooperation Council, share a laugh during an SC4 delegation visit to Qatar in January. All are alumni of SC4. Attending the trip were SC4 Board of Trustees Chair John D. Adair, SC4 Trustee Dr. Nicholas J. DeGrazia, SC4 President Dr. Kevin A. Pollock, Tansky and SC4 Professor Emeritus Dr. Thomas Mooney. The



trip was paid for by officials in Qatar. Potential future initiatives discussed during the visit for SC4 and educational institutions in Qatar include student and faculty exchanges and students from Qatar studying English at SC4.

## College covers promise scholarships cut by state

SC4 has stepped up to keep the state of Michigan's scholarship promise to SC4 students. The SC4 Board of Trustees on Nov. 19 approved awarding one-time scholarships from the college to SC4 students who were recipients of the state's now-canceled Michigan Promise Scholarship program. The state cut funding for the scholarships because of budget constraints. SC4 has about 375 students who each were depending on as much as \$1,000 in promise money to pay for their education for the 2009-10 academic year.



## PTK provides service

SC4 alumnus Dan Martiny of Fort Gratiot and student Twana Pinskey of Port Huron sort food during the December food drive of SC4's Lambda Mu chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. The 27th annual drive collected 8,663 pounds of food and \$1,290 for the Blue Water Community Food Depot. Also in 2009, the chapter launched a blog for academic discussions among students around the world. Visit the blog at [www.sc4.edu/ptk](http://www.sc4.edu/ptk).

## SC4 experiences enrollment records for two semesters

St. Clair County Community College experienced enrollment records in both the fall and winter semesters. As of early February, 5,170 students had enrolled for the winter 2010 semester. That's the highest enrollment for any semester in SC4's 87-year history, and it's 563 more students than enrolled for winter semester 2009. The previous record, set in fall semester 2009, was 5,023 students.

## SC4, Cros-Lex partnership provides Early College pilot

The Croswell-Lexington School District and SC4 have created an Early College pilot program allowing students to graduate from Croswell-Lexington Early College High School after five years with both a high school diploma from the school district and an associate degree from SC4. The goal is to increase the number of college graduates in both Sanilac and St. Clair counties. The students will have no tuition cost because it is being paid through the Croswell-Lexington School District. The students will be able to complete six years of high school and college in five years. The program, which starts in fall 2010, will be open to students in their junior year at Croswell-Lexington High School.

## Social networking presence expands across three sites

SC4 has enhanced its social networking presence and is posting daily updates about the college and its students. The college in fall 2009 joined Twitter and redesigned its Facebook page. SC4 also has a page on MySpace. All of SC4's social networking pages are open to the public. Links to all three sites are available from SC4's home page at [www.sc4.edu](http://www.sc4.edu).

# SC4 Alumni Association news



## Alumni annual meeting

At the 2009 alumni annual meeting in November, Tom Coleman of Fort Gratiot, right (with his wife, Nanci Jane), was named Distinguished Alumnus of the Year. Dr. Ralph Gillhooley of Port Huron, left, received an Honorary Alumnus Award. The 2010 annual meeting will be Nov. 18.



## Quiz Bowl

Port Huron Northern High School team members Kelson Thomas, left, and Joseph Finkel were part of the winning A-B division team at the 2010 Regional High School Quiz Bowl in February. Brown City High School won the C-D division. The event was sponsored by SC4 and the SC4 Alumni Association.



## Trip to Stratford

Paulette LoGrasso of Harrison Township, left, and Janet Brown of Port Huron were among 50 people who took the 2009 alumni bus trip to Stratford in September. The 2010 trip, set for Sept. 11, will include a theatre performance of *Evita*.



## Golf Classic

From left, Patty Cooley of Marysville, Debi Campbell of Port Huron and Debbie Shafranski of Fort Gratiot talk during the 21st annual SC4 Alumni Association Golf Classic in June. The event raised more than \$20,000 for alumni programs, including scholarships. The 2010 golf outing will be June 4.

## SC4 Foundation update

### Red Carpet Affair

SC4 Trustee Dr. Nicholas DeGrazia of Burtchville Township and Sue Mireau Rusczyński of Port Huron won the Dancing with the "Local Stars" event at the 2009 SC4 Foundation Red Carpet Affair in November. The gala raised more than \$36,000 to benefit SC4. The 2010 Red Carpet Affair is planned for Nov. 6.



### Foundation dinner

SC4 Foundation scholarship recipients Michael Connelly of Emmett and Hillary Meyer of Burtchville Township spoke at the SC4 Foundation's 2009 Annual Dinner in October. The foundation in fiscal year 2008-09 awarded 45 scholarships totaling \$61,978 to SC4 students. The 2010 Annual Dinner is set for Oct. 12.

## Mark your calendar

### March

26-28 - Theatre:  
*The Real Thing*

### April

1 - Free Noon Concert  
10 - Free College Day  
15 - Free Noon Concert  
17 - SC4 Symphonic  
Band Concert  
22 - Free Noon Concert  
25 - *Patterns* Reception

### May

7 - Commencement  
15 - Children's theatre:  
*Young King Arthur*

### June

4 - Alumni Golf Classic

### July

14 - Rotary International  
Day Parade

### September

11 - Alumni Stratford trip:  
*Evita*

### October

12 - SC4 Foundation  
Annual Dinner

### November

6 - SC4 Foundation  
Red Carpet Affair  
18 - Alumni annual meeting

*Details:*

[www.sc4.edu/events](http://www.sc4.edu/events)

## Sign up to attend Syrian dance show

The SC4 Alumni Association is gathering a group to attend the Enana Dance Theater of Syria's first-ever performance in the United States.

Enana will perform Tuesday, June 22, at the Arab American National Museum's seventh annual Gala at the Max M. Fisher Music Center in Detroit.

Based in Damascus, Enana's performances feature dynamic choreography, spectacular scenery and dazzling costumes.

For details and to attend with the alumni association group, call (810) 989-5760.

For more photos from these and other events, visit [www.sc4.edu/photos](http://www.sc4.edu/photos).

## Tell us how you're doing

We'd love to hear about new appointments, degrees earned, job promotions and other events in your life. You also can complete this form, and attach digital photographs, at [www.sc4.edu/alumni](http://www.sc4.edu/alumni).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name while at SC4 (if different) \_\_\_\_\_

Home address \_\_\_\_\_

City, state, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone \_\_\_\_\_

What's new? (use a separate sheet if necessary) \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to (check as many you wish):

- Help out at alumni events.
- Get information about becoming a mentor for an SC4 student.
- Financially support the alumni association.

### Mail to:

Donna Blay  
Executive Director of College Advancement  
and Alumni Relations  
St. Clair County Community College  
P.O. Box 5015  
Port Huron, MI 48061-5015

## Alumni association membership benefits

### Membership is open to:

- Current and former students of SC4.
- Graduates of SC4.
- Friends of SC4.

### The mission of the SC4 Alumni Association is to:

- Foster a lifelong relationship between St. Clair County Community College and its alumni.
- Support St. Clair County Community College in advancing its mission.
- Help serve the needs of the alumni community.

**There are no membership dues or fees.** We may ask for voluntary donations from time to time to help maintain alumni activities, mailings and student-centered events.

### Benefits of membership include:

- Free lifelong employment services.
- Free SC4 library card.
- Free admission to SC4 athletic home games.
- Free admission to SC4 Symphonic Band concerts.
- Free admission to SC4 Theatre Discipline productions.

For dates of upcoming college or alumni events, visit [www.sc4.edu/events](http://www.sc4.edu/events) or [www.sc4.edu/alumni](http://www.sc4.edu/alumni).

# Alumni Connection

## Winter 2010

St. Clair County Community College

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*Alumni Connection* is a publication of the SC4 Alumni Association and SC4's Office of College Advancement and Alumni Relations. For details, call Donna Blay at (810) 989-5761.



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