



## Alliance Award Presented to REACH Team

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The Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas awarded Black River Technical College along with Jameson Architects, Construction Network, Inc., Preservation Matters, and Eric Sammons, all part of the Project REACH team, the 2010 Award for “Outstanding Work by a Craftsperson” for the William Looney Tavern Project in Dalton. The award was presented at the 2010 Arkansas Preservation Awards Banquet January 14 at Chenal Country Club in Little Rock.

The Arkansas Preservation Awards are given each year to recognize the important work being done throughout Arkansas to preserve and protect places of historical or cultural importance.

“The projects that were honored demonstrate that preservation is about more than saving old buildings, it is about the importance of history to communities—and about saving the distinctive places that make Arkansas and the South unique—for today and for the future,” said

Vanessa McQuin, Executive Director of the Alliance. The Looney Tavern earned the award for “meticulous

restoration using tools and techniques that are faithful to the original construction.”

This year’s banquet kicked off the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Alliance with an evening of celebration for past and present preservation efforts and honored the award-winning dedication of exemplary Arkansans throughout the last thirty years, as well as the critically important work being done today.

“We are extremely excited and honored to have been selected for this award,” said Dr. Jan Ziegler, VP for Development and REACH Coordinator for BRTC. “Many people have given so much of their time and talents to this project. Both the Looney Tavern and the other component of REACH, the Rice-Upshaw House, are real treasures for our community

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*Frances Ross, President of the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas (third from left) presents the award for “Outstanding Work by a Craftsperson” to representatives of Project REACH (left to right) Howard Ballard, Tommy Jameson, Ronnie Walker, Dr. Jan Ziegler, and Sean Stern.*

### Important Dates

- Feb. 3**  
*Foundation Board Mtg.*
- Feb. 10**  
*Board of Trustees Mtg.*
- Feb. 20**  
*College Goal Sunday*
- March 1**  
*Foundation Gala*
- March 8**  
*BRTC Health Fair*
- March 21-25**  
*Spring Break*

## Annual Foundation Gala Set for March 1



*Brenda Walls, Gala Chair and Foundation Board Member*

The 5th Annual BRTC Foundation Gala has been scheduled for Tuesday, March 1, and tickets are now on sale, according to Brenda Walls, Foundation Board Member and Gala Chair.

The event will be held in the Randolph County Development Center beginning with a reception at 6:00 followed by an elegant evening with dinner and fun-filled live and silent auctions. All proceeds go to the BRTC Foundation.

“This is a time for people to dress up and come out for a really special evening in a beautiful setting,” said Walls. “We always have a lot of fun and raise much-needed dollars to support scholarships and other needs of the college and its students.”

“Limited seating is available,” she continued, “so we encourage interested individuals to buy their tickets early.”

To purchase tickets, contact any member of the BRTC Foundation or call Vickie French at 870-248-4070. Tickets are \$125 per couple and include a sit-down dinner, valet parking, and coat check.

# Business Dept. Hosts Technology Day

The Business Department of Black River Technical College hosted its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Business Technology Day January 14 for area high school students.

The event was held to provide a day for the students to prepare for their upcoming district FBLA competitions, according to Business Instructor Darendra Kersey. Approximately 100 students attended from Hoxie, Nettleton, Piggott, and Rec-

tor. During the day, students took practice tests in many business subject areas including Business Communications, Word Processing, Desktop Publishing, Accounting, Personal Finance, and Sports Management. Rhonda Foster, BRTC Re-



*Students from Hoxie High School practice for an FBLA event while on the BRTC Campus attending the 2nd Annual Business Technology Day hosted by the Business Department.*

grant from the BRTC Foundation. Mid-morning snacks were provided by Bank of Poca-

hontas, and door prizes were awarded. "The faculty of the BRTC Business Department look forward to hosting this event again next year," said Department Head Debbie Prichard. "The high school teachers expressed appreciation to us for hosting the event and feel it is very beneficial to their students at district competition."

crutment Coordinator gave a presentation on the different degrees and programs offered at BRTC as well as tips for applying for financial aid.

The event was sponsored in part through a SEAS (Special Events and Activities Support)

# History Instructors Observe MLK Day



*Dr. Jason Morrison and Dr. Charlotte Power*

Dr. Jason Morrison and Dr. Charlotte Power, history instructors at BRTC, observed Martin Luther King Jr. Day on January 17 by taking a few moments to address students, faculty and staff in the lounge area of BRTC's Administration Building.

"Dr. Power and I decided to do this as a way of paying tribute to Dr. King," Morrison explained. "He transformed our nation and we cannot allow time to lessen the message of Dr. King's 1963 speech."

"King had a dream not just for racial harmony but for all harmony and for all to come together as one," Morrison explained to the audience. "He encouraged us to move past the concepts of what makes us different and move toward the thoughts that unite us as a nation. It's important that we continue working towards that dream."

In closing, Morrison encouraged the audience to reflect upon their own dreams and allow Dr. King's message to fuel the flames of those dreams so as never to be extinguished.

# Students Awarded NASA Scholarships

Three Aviation Maintenance Technology students at BRTC have been awarded scholarships through NASA's National Space Grant College and Fellowship program, according to Scott Casady, Aviation Maintenance Technology Instructor. Timothy Brackin of Jonesboro, Matthew Propst of Black Rock, and Jeffrey Smith of Poca-



*Matthew Propst (from left), Aviation Instructor Scott Casady, Jeffrey Smith and Timothy Brackin pose in front of a Piper Aztec.*

hontas, each received scholarships in the amount of \$2,000 for the 2010-2011 academic year. "BRTC is a member of the Arkansas Space Grant Consortium, one of 52 consortia in NASA's network of colleges and universities," Casady explained. "Through the membership, aviation

students are eligible to apply for the scholarship under the Community College Aviation Maintenance Technician Scholarship program." A total of five scholarships have been awarded to BRTC students through the program.

NASA initiated the 'Space Grant' to expand opportunities to understand and participate in aeronautics and space projects and the 52 consortium fund fellowships and undergraduate scholarships to increase the number of students interested in pursuing careers in aerospace related areas.

The mission of the Arkansas Space Grant Consortium is to actively promote the involvement of the State of Arkansas in NASA activities.

# Alliance Award Cont'd from Pg. 1

and our state. They hold great potential as educational settings for students of all ages."

In addition to Ziegler, Ronnie Walker, the college's construction manager, represented BRTC at the event.

Other members of the REACH Team in attendance to accept the award were Architect Tommy Jameson, and CNI representatives Sean Stem, owner, and Howard Ballard, project supervisor.

The Historic Preservation Alliance is the only statewide non-profit organization dedicated to preserving Arkansas's architectural and cultural heritage.

# BRTC Names Three New Student Ambassadors for Spring

Jason Moseley, Lynsey Mullen, and Magan Taylor have been selected to serve as BRTC Student Ambassadors for the Spring 2011 Semester and will receive a full tuition scholarship for the semester while serving the college in various capacities. They join existing Ambassadors Amanda Lane, Derek Waddell and Tori Junkersfeld.

Moseley of Corning is working on his Associate of Science in Business degree with plans of transferring to Arkansas State University to seek a Bachelor of Science in Accounting degree. He plans to pursue a career as a CPA.

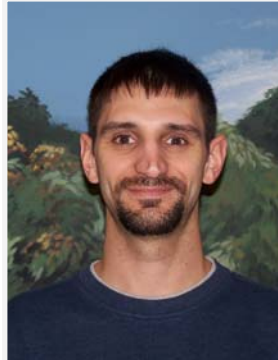
Lynsey Mullen of Ravenden is a graduate of Sloan-Hendrix High School. She is working on an Associate of Arts in General Education degree and plans to transfer to ASU to seek a Bachelor's in Communicative Disorders degree. She hopes to one day become a speech Pathologist and work with children.

Megan Taylor of Myrtle, Missouri, is a graduate of Couch High School in Missouri, and is also working toward an Associate of Arts in General Education degree. Further plans include obtaining a degree in radiology or nursing and pursuing a career in the medical field as a radiologist or obstetrics nurse.

The purpose of the Ambassador program, according to Retention and Placement Coordinator Laura Woods, is to provide recognition and scholarship assistance to deserving students while building awareness of opportunities available at Black River Technical College. Students are nominated at the beginning of each semester by BRTC faculty and staff. They must meet certain criteria and pass a rigorous interview process.

To qualify, students are required to maintain a minimum 3.0 grade point average and be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours per semester. Once nominated, students are asked to submit a letter of educational objectives, a resume, three personal references, and a state employment application, prior to the interview.

For more information about the BRTC Ambassador Program, contact Woods at 870-248-4000, ext. 4127.



*Jason Moseley*



*Lynsey Mullen*



*Megan Taylor*



*Returning Ambassadors Amanda Lane, Derek Waddell, and Tori Junkersfeld*

## BRTC Instructors Awarded Degrees

BRTC Instructors Derek Clements and Nanette Carter, both of Pocahontas, were recently awarded degrees. Carter was awarded a Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration from Bellevue University in Nebraska last June, and Clements was awarded a Ph.D in Heritage Studies from Arkansas State University in Jonesboro this past December.

Carter was hired as instructor of Phlebotomy at BRTC in August 2006 after working 29 years as a nurse in all aspects of the healthcare field. She also holds a Practical Nursing degree from Ozarka College and an AS in Nursing from Arkansas State University.

Clements was hired as full-time instructor of History on the BRTC-Paragould campus in August.



*Nanette Carter*



*Dr. Derek Clements*

He served as an adjunct instructor for 12 years while also teaching History at Pocahontas High School. He also holds a BSE in Social Science, an MA in History, a SCCT in History, and an MA in Heritage Studies, all from Arkansas State University.

## Mounts Receives Scholarship

Ronald Mounts, a graduate of Black Rock High School, has once again been awarded the Aviation Maintenance Manufacturing Scholarship in the amount of \$500 for the Spring 2011 semester at BRTC.



*Ronald Mounts*

Mounts plans to graduate in May with his Associate of Applied Science in Aviation Maintenance Technology.



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### Mission Statement

Black River Technical College is an institution of higher learning committed to a partnership with the individual and the global community to provide lifelong learning experiences, seeking always to empower those it serves to achieve their academic, vocational, and personal development goals.

## Campus Commentary



Dr. Michael Sullens  
VP for Student Services

BRTC has reached another milestone in the history of the institution with a record enrollment of over 2,469 students for the spring semester. BRTC shows increased numbers both in Pocahontas and Paragould.

The economy has impacted the enrollment growth in the two-year colleges across the state. Parents realize that their child can obtain a high quality education at a lesser tuition cost for the first two years and not

incur the additional expenses at a four-year institution, such as housing. The new growth has brought with it new challenges which were met by each division within the institution.

The challenge that the Student Services division faced and will continue to face is time. The financial aid department worked extended hours for three weeks to process aid for the students. Likewise, the registrar's office went to extended hours for updating the students' files.

The updating ensures that all documents have been submitted and the registration information field is populated so that financial aid can be awarded. Everyone in Student Services worked extended hours to accommodate the increased enrollment.

The advisement, retention, and Pathways departments arrived early and stayed late to ensure that the students were receiving the services needed to complete their enrollment process.

## PTK Hosts Blood Drive

BRTC's Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa sponsored their quarterly blood drive January 25-26 in the Randolph County Development Center on the Pocahontas campus. The Red Cross collected 66 pints of blood during the two day drive, which exceeded PTK's goal of 55 pints.

Dr. Linda Moss, PTK advisor, expressed her appreciation to all who donated. PTK sponsors the blood drive four times per year in January, March, July and October.



Sarah Taylor of Pocahontas and LPN student at BRTC prepares to give blood.

This spring the nontraditional student number was higher than the traditional student. The trend has reversed and now fifty-two percent of the students enrolled are nontraditional students, students age 24 and over.

Once again, this is tied to the economy and the cost of attendance, which has greatly impacted Paragould. BRTC has seen a tremendous increase

in Paragould enrollment up over last spring by 144 students or up 20.8 percent.

The recognition of accommodating this large enrollment goes to everyone at BRTC. Without the joint effort of all individuals to process this large number of students, the task could not have been accomplished.