

RCNJ Leadership Committee
Meeting Minutes February 22, 2006

Attendance: Jay Anthony, Ken DeGhetto '50 (Chairman), Phil Lurie '74 (Treasurer), Laura Nass '82, Sandeep Nandy '94 (President), Steve Nudelman '90, Henry Rosenblatt '54, Harry Rosenthal '60.

Meeting location: Nautilus Diner
95 Main Street
Madison, NJ
(973) 377-8484

1. Approved minutes from January 18, 2006 RCNJ Leadership committee meeting.
2. **President's report** – Nandy mentioned that invitation card for the 03/08/2006 dinner featuring Dean Alan Cramb should be in your hands now. A special round of thanks to RCNJ Vice President John Cloninger '96 , Nandy and the Lurie family for producing and preparing invitations for mailing. We sent out 3000 invitations for the dinner. We need to publicize our events better and increase attendance. RCNJ elections will be held in June. Please begin thinking about if you would be interested in serving as an officer of the RCNJ.
3. **Vice President's report** – No report.
4. **Treasurer's report - Financial update** – Treasury numbers were discussed. Dues have been collected from over 90 alumni. Liberty Science Center wants to raise funds for their summer program themselves.

5. Discussion of events since last committee meeting (Nets basketball game, Princeton Hockey game) -

On Saturday January 21, 2006, eleven members of the RCNJ attended the New Jersey Nets men's basketball game against the Boston Celtics. All who attended had a good time, as the Nets defeated the Celtics, 103-83.

On Saturday February 17, 2006, approximately 135 members of the RCNJ attended the RPI men's ice hockey game at Princeton. This marked the 26th consecutive year that the RCNJ held this event. The RPI Engineers raced out to an early 2-0 lead, but the homestanding Princeton Tigers scored the next four goals of the contest. Rensselaer tied the game with two goals late and the game ended in a 4-4 tie. Following the game, approximately 40 people gathered at a local Chinese buffet for socializing and a post game meal. Among the attendees at the buffet was the RPI Pep band.

6. **Discussion about upcoming events** – As of 02/27/2006, we have 17 people paid to attend the dinner on 03/08/06 featuring RPI Dean of Engineering Alan Cramb. Nandy sent out an e-mail to all RCNJ dues payers encouraging people to attend. Members of the RCNJ Leadership Committee will also be making phone calls for this. There was a bit of discussion about whether it was stated at 01/18/06 meeting that RCNJ would subsidize each attendee for the dinner \$10, hence making each person's cost to attend \$50. In hindsight, this may have resulted in increased attendance and Lurie and Nudelman did recall making the suggestion to do so. However, when it came time to print the invitation cards, this discussion point was forgotten and each attendee was asked for \$60 to attend. In summary, at the 03/20/06 meeting, we will discuss the dinner and have a post-mortem, discussing what went well and what the RCNJ can do to improve its process for holding dinner functions in the future. Special thanks to all RCNJ Leadership Committee members for all their input, suggestions and assistance in terms of the dinner.

The Entrepreneurship Breakfast and JJ Bittings brewpub events will be discussed further at next committee meeting.

7. Upcoming RCNJ events

Wednesday March 8, 2006 – Montclair Golf Club - Dinner with Dean of Engineering Alan Cramb – Nandy and DeGhetto are working on organizing this event. The theme of the evening will be “The Future of the RPI School of

Engineering: Global Engineers and Technology Leaders.” As of 02/27/06, the tentative agenda is to have a cocktail hour from 6 to 7 pm, followed by dinner and remarks lasting until 9:30 pm. Menu decisions will be finalized ASAP. Cost for each attendee will be \$60. The RCNJ funded the cost of printing and mailing invitations. If you are interested in more info on this event, please contact Chapter President Sandeep Nandy '94 at NJ_Chapter@alum.rpi.edu.

Tuesday April 4, 2006 – 8 a.m. – RCNJ Entrepreneurship Breakfast - Join the RCNJ as we hold an Entrepreneurship Breakfast on Tuesday April 4 beginning at 8 am. The event will take place at PSE&G headquarters in Newark. The keynote speaker will be Mark Tentnowski, new Director of Rensselaer's Incubator Center. There will also be a panel discussion. Panelists are currently being sought. The fee to attend this event will be \$20. For more details on the event, to become a panelist, or if you would like to attend, please contact Phil Lurie '74 at PLurie@alum.rpi.edu.

Thursday April 20, 2006 – 6:30 – 8:30 pm – Brewpub event at JJ Bitting's (Woodbridge) – Nudelman is organizing this event for RCNJ. Come join fellow RPI alumni after work for some socializing and fun. For more details on the brewery, please visit their website at <http://www.njbrewpubs.com>. The cost of the event for each participant will be the beverages and food that they purchase. If you would like to attend, please contact Steve Nudelman '90 at either steven@nudelman.us or (732) 549-5600.

Sunday May 7, 2006 – 9:30 am – 12:30 pm - Lymphomathon - Come join the RCNJ as we participate in a charity run/walk. We will be taking part in the Lymphomathon. The Lymphomathon is non-competitive 5K walk where survivors, family, friends, community and corporate teams walk in honor and in memory of those whose lives have been touched by lymphoma. The event will take place at the Boat Marina at Mercer County Park in West Windsor, NJ. On the day of the event, registration will take place from 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. All proceeds raised by participants will support the Foundation's mission of eradicating lymphoma and serving those touched by this disease. There is no entry fee. RCNJ President Sandeep Nandy will serve as team captain for the RCNJ. He has created a team named Rensselaer Club of New Jersey. Nandy would like to see all people interested in participating in this event raise \$100 each. If you would like to join the Rensselaer Club of New Jersey team, please contact Chapter President Sandeep Nandy '94 at NJ_Chapter@alum.rpi.edu or (201) 967 7271. For more details on the event, please visit <http://www.lymphomathon.org/faf/home/default.asp?ievent=147855&lis=0&kntae147855=304CE9E1A06147A795E6324D7812B20F>.

Summer 2006 – date and time TBA – Tour of Faps Inc automobile plant – DeGhetto has a contact with this company and will attempt to arrange a tour for RCNJ at automobile plant. This plant has cars getting special features before they go to dealer. At this committee meeting, it was decided that this tour will be held during week of June 12 sometime. It was also suggested that we ask if possible to meet at 7 pm. DeGhetto will have an update for committee at next meeting.

Saturday June 24, 2006 – 11 am to 5 pm (location TBA) – RCNJ Summer picnic – This event will feature RCNJ elections, barbeque and a softball game. In an effort to keep costs down for RCNJ, maybe we need to have a minimal charge for attendees. Other chapters who hold summer picnics charge their members a nominal fee. This will be discussed in more detail at next committee meeting. Snyder previously provided some potential parks where this can be held in Morris County. Other members of the committee did not feel comfortable with Morris county location for picnic. Nudelman mentioned Tamaques Park in Westfield as a potential location. The ballfields at Tamaques Park are filled, so Nudelman then proposed Colonial Park in Somerset County. Lurie will check availability of Colonial Park and report back to committee at next meeting. If Colonial Park is not available, the RCNJ may have to consider initial suggestion of holding it at the park in Boonton.

Saturday July 15, 2006 – 4:05 pm – Chicago White Sox at New York Yankees - The Rensselaer Club of New Jersey will be attending the game between the Chicago White Sox and New York Yankees at Yankee Stadium. Don't miss a pitch of the action as the defending World Series champion White Sox take on the traditionally strong Yankees.

A block of 40 seats will be purchased and distributed on a first-come, first serve basis. The cost of tickets will be between \$25-\$55. Since this will be an event for Rensselaer Club of New Jersey, Rensselaer Club of New York City and Rensselaer Club of Westchester, each chapter will be allocated 20 seats.

For directions to Yankee Stadium, please visit

http://newyork.yankees.mlb.com/NASApp/mlb/nyy/ballpark/directions_parking.jsp.

If you are interested in attending, contact RCNJ President Sandeep Nandy '94 at NJ_Chapter@alum.rpi.edu or (201) 967-7271.

Sunday July 30, 2006 – 12-4 p.m. - Send off event for Class of 2010 (Lurie residence) – Join the Rensselaer Club of New Jersey (RCNJ) as they host a special day for accepted students for the RPI Class of 2010. The event will be hosted at the residence of Phil Lurie '74 and his wife Betty Lurie '75. Members of the RCNJ leadership committee will be on hand to welcome the incoming freshmen as they prepare to begin their journey as Rensselaer students. Please feel free to stop by and share your RPI experiences with a new batch of students. Contact Phil Lurie '74 at Plurie@logicalapp.com for more details on the event or if you would like to attend.

Saturday August 5, 2006 – 11:30 a.m. – Hambletonian Day - Come join the RCNJ as we take in a day of harness racing at the Meadowlands. The sport's top young trotters battle for harness racing's ultimate prize, the \$1.5 million Hambletonian Stakes. Parking for this event is free and admission is \$1. All adult-paid admissions will receive a free gift, and there will be a corresponding giveaway to all children-paid admissions. The day will also feature live music, pony rides, carnival games, face painters and much more. The gates open at 9:30 am with the first race commencing at 11:30 am. If you are interested in attending this event, please contact Chapter President Sandeep Nandy '94 at NJ_Chapter@alum.rpi.edu. Once we have an idea of how many people will attend, Nandy will determine a meeting place within the racetrack. Each attendee will be responsible for buying their own food and drinks at the racetrack. All food and drinks are moderately priced at this venue. For more information on the Hambletonian Stakes, please visit <http://www.thebigm.com>. For directions to the racetrack, please visit <http://www.thebigm.com/directions.asp>

Thursday August 10, 2006 – 6- 8 p.m. – Cricket Hill Brewery tour - Join the Rensselaer Club of New Jersey on Thursday, August 10 at 6 p.m. as we visit the Cricket Hill Brewery in Fairfield, NJ. Brewmaster Rick Reed will give a short presentation on the history of beer in New Jersey, and also explain how Cricket Hill beer is produced. Mr. Reed will also be available throughout the evening to answer individual questions. There will also be a tour of the location where bottling of the beers takes place. Warm clothing is recommended because the brewery is partially open to the outdoors. Complimentary snacks and beer will be provided during the event. Cricket Hill is located at 24 Kulick Road in Fairfield. If you are interested in attending, contact John Cloninger '96 at jpcloninger@gmail.com or by calling (908) 578-3673. For more information on the brewery, please visit <http://www.crickethillbrewery.com/index.html>.

Sunday August 20, 2006 – 1:35 pm – Portland Sea Dogs at Trenton Thunder - Summer means it is time for America's favorite past time, baseball. Join your local alumni chapter for a great game as the Yankees/Red Sox rivalry is renewed! The RCNJ will be attending a game between the Thunder, double A affiliate of the Yankees, and the Portland Seadogs. Portland is the double A team of the Boston Red Sox.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Joe Pilaro '55 at pilarj@rpi.edu. Joe will be purchasing a block of tickets once all ticket requests are received.

- 9. Open discussion** – During open discussion, it was brought up that <http://www.rcnj.org> is back on-line. It was also stated that the RCNJ needs to do a solid job of retaining new people who attend the diner Leadership Committee meetings. It was also emphasized that more e-mails (listprocs) need to be sent out to gauge alumni interest in events as well as locations for diner Leadership Committee meetings.

10. Date and time for next meeting was set for March 20, 2006 at 7:00 pm.

Meeting location: Bill's Plaza Diner

1262 Paterson Plank Road
Secaucus, NJ 07094
(201) 864-1531