

## Clermont Chamber of Commerce Honors 2010/2011 Pacesetters

The Clermont Chamber of Commerce proudly announces recipients of the prestigious Pacesetter Awards. Tom Rocklin, has been named the Edward J. Parish Pacesetter, University of Cincinnati, Clermont College is the Corporate Pacesetter, and Chris Smith has been named the Martha Dorsey Pacesetter.

The **Edward J. Parish Pacesetter award** has been presented annually since 1974 to an individual who has contributed to the economic vitality of Clermont County, who has a genuine concern for the welfare of the county and its residents, and who has exhibited outstanding qualities of character, citizenship and leadership.

The Chamber is pleased to present this award to Tom Rocklin, the Senior Technical Project Manager in the Milford, Ohio office of the Products group of Siemens PLM Software, a business unit of the Siemens Industry Automation Division. Headquartered in Plano, Texas, Siemens PLM Software works collaboratively with companies to deliver open solutions that help them turn more ideas into successful products. Tom has broad experience and expertise in web technologies, data management applications, and business management systems. He is a lead quality coordinator for the company's quality initiatives.

He is an active member of The First Apostolic Church in Kenwood, where he serves as a deacon, volunteer treasurer, teacher, choir member, and assistant webmaster.

His community activities include:

- Clermont 20/20, Inc., past Board Member, chair of the Technology Committee, and volunteer webmaster. Tom is a graduate of the LEAD Clermont Class of 2000.
- Clermont Chamber of Commerce, member of the Board of Directors, representative for Siemens PLM Software.
- Clermont Northeastern Local Schools, member of the Business Advisory Committee, advisor for the TECHie Club for select 3-5 graders.
- Clermont Senior Services, Inc., Board Member and Chair Emeritus of the Board of Trustees.
- College Educational Opportunities, President of the Board Trustees.
- Greater Cincinnati Foundation, member of the Advisory Board for the Clermont Community Fund.
- Homesteading & Urban Redevelopment Corporation, volunteer webmaster.
- League of Women Voters of Clermont County, volunteer webmaster.
- The Literacy Council of Clermont and Brown Counties, Board Member and past Board President, volunteer webmaster.
- Live Oaks Career Development Center, member of the Regional Business Council, mentor for select high school juniors and seniors.
- Milford Miami Township Chamber of Commerce, representative for Siemens PLM Software.
- Milford Schools, member of the Partners in Education, member of the Advisory Council for the high school DECA program, volunteer webmaster for the Milford Band Boosters, volunteer webmaster for the Milford Schools Foundation, past private sponsor for the Ron Levi Scholarship for Musical Excellence.
- SEM Haven, volunteer webmaster.
- Siemens PLM Software, member of the Greater Cincinnati Community Affairs Council, United Way Employee Campaign Coordinator.
- United Way of Greater Cincinnati, volunteer account manager for the Eastern Region.
- University of Cincinnati Clermont College, member of the Service Learning Community Action Council, sponsor of the Rocklin Brothers Scholarship.
- Workforce One Investment Board Southwest Ohio, Board Member, member of Youth Council.

The **Corporate Pacesetter award** has been presented annually since 1997 to a Clermont County organization that has demonstrated outstanding qualities of corporate citizenship and leadership, as well as a genuine concern for the welfare of Clermont County and its residents.

The Clermont Chamber is honored to name **University of Cincinnati, Clermont College** as the 2010/2011 Corporate Pacesetter. The University of Cincinnati, Clermont College is located in the center of Clermont County on 91.2 beautiful wooded acres in Batavia Township. Opened in 1972, Clermont College is an accredited, open-access college offering more than 50 associate degrees and certificate programs. UC Clermont College announced its first technical bachelor's degree – the Bachelor of Technical and Applied Studies (BTAS) in Applied Administration - beginning in the fall of 2011. The BTAS degree is designed for working adults who want to move into supervisory or administrative positions in a technological field.

When the groundbreaking ceremony was held on July 30, 1971 at the 61-acre site on the hill southwest of Batavia, it signified the successful end of a 10-year effort to establish a college in Clermont County. It also marked the beginning of a cooperative effort between the University of Cincinnati and community members of Clermont County to create vibrant, trained workforce for local business and industry. – *An excerpt from the introduction in the book - 25th Anniversary of Clermont College by Dean James McDonough.*

UC Clermont College has experienced tremendous growth – with a 70 percent increase in enrollment since 2000. The college has built five new buildings since 2000 to accommodate the needs of the campus.

UC East, a Clermont County expansion in the former Ford plant in Batavia Township, began offering classes in the fall of 2010. UC leases two floors of the former administrative building, consisting of 81,000 square feet of office space from private developer IRG.

A dedicated group of community volunteers work toward the ambitious goals of the Proudly Cincinnati campaign so that students are prepared to succeed anywhere and everywhere as UC Clermont College alumni. Funding priorities include meeting the needs of a growing student body through the establishment of a new building, strengthening recruitment and retention of outstanding faculty, increasing scholarship to recruit and reward academically talented and engaged student body and enriching the college's thriving academic enterprise and community outreach.

Since 2001, The **Martha Dorsey Pacesetter Award** has been presented to a past public official whose leadership has improved the economic vitality of Clermont County and whose accomplishments have brought favorable attention to the community.

The Clermont Chamber is proud to name Chris Smith as the 2010/2011 Martha Dorsey Pacesetter.

Chris has 4 decades of business experience. This includes 20 years in the commercial banking industry, eight as President of a community banking organization. Chris then spent a decade in real estate development, property management, site selection, and build-to-suit activities working for Duke Realty, one of the country's largest Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) organizations. Chris's responsibilities included managing the institutional portfolio for Teachers Insurance & Annuity of New York, one the world's largest institutional real estate investor / owners. Chris spent several years working for Uible Management Group as COO. Uible Management operates several small businesses in service and manufacturing sectors in Clermont County. Uible Management Group also specializes in distress company acquisitions and turn-a-round transactions.

Chris also has extensive public sector experience having served as the Economic Development Director for Clermont County affiliated with the County Commissioners and the Clermont Chamber of Commerce. He managed the local Small Business Development Center, and served as an economic development staff member for Governor Bob Taft of Ohio. Responsibilities there included securing new companies, new investments, and new jobs for Ohio while administering various loan, research and development, tax credit, and grant programs that promoted and assisted companies with their growth, retention, and expansion efforts.

Chris served this past year in a philanthropic role working as CEO of Clermont 20/20 Inc., a community development organization. This position involved shepherding the orderly closure of this organization while transitioning all of its programs over to other Clermont County community stakeholders.

Chris Smith; University of Cincinnati, Clermont College and Rocklin will be honored at the Clermont Chamber of Commerce Annual Pacesetter Awards Dinner on Thursday, November 10, 5:30 p.m. at Holiday Inn and Suites Cincinnati East. Reservations for individuals and corporate tables are available and may be made at 576-5000 or [www.clermontchamber.com](http://www.clermontchamber.com).

*Founded in 1969, the Clermont Chamber of Commerce is an association of approximately 850 businesses working together to make the Clermont County area the best place to locate, operate and grow your business. The Chamber's key initiatives are advocacy, economic growth and member/investor benefits. Find us at [www.clermontchamber.com](http://www.clermontchamber.com). The President of the Clermont Chamber of Commerce is Matthew D. Van Sant, and the Chairman of the Board is David McNutt of American Modern Insurance Group.*