

## SVEE NAMED RECIPIENT OF RMC OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

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Attached photo: Rod Svee  
Photo by Dave M. Shumway, RMC

Also: Luminaries light the way to the annual RMC Candlelight Dinner in Prescott Hall  
Photo by Dave M. Shumway, RMC

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BILLINGS -- A Rocky Mountain College alumnus, who epitomizes the kind of leadership that RMC prides itself on instilling in its students, will be the recipient of this year's RMC Alumni Association Outstanding Service Award. Rod Svee, who graduated from RMC in 1969, had a distinguished career as a public school administrator. He has also served on the RMC Board of Trustees and the RMC Alumni Board. He will be honored at the 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Candlelight Dinner, February 9, 2012, to be held in the Great Room of Prescott Hall, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

"Rod has been faithful to serving young people in Montana and Wyoming, ensuring that they received the highest quality education that could be provided. His leadership is a model for working with families, teachers, and the community at large for the best interests of the students, from kindergarten to high school," said RMC President Michael Mace. "Rod is also a model for alumni service, reaching back to serve others at his alma mater. He exemplifies leadership in all facets of his life."

Svee's career spans 45 years as a teacher, principal and superintendent. He began teaching in Heart Butte, followed by teaching and coaching in Drummond. He became principal and superintendent of Rosebud Public Schools from 1974-1978; Wolf Point Public Schools, from 1978-1981; Hardin Public Schools from 1983-1998; Sheridan County School District, from 1998-2003; and Billings Public Schools from 2003-2006. He also served as an assistant superintendent with the State Office of Public Instruction, 1981-1983.

His professional affiliations include serving as a member of the Montana Chamber of Commerce, the Human Rights Commission, and the Commission on Schools for the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges. He was also on the Board of the National Study of School Evaluation.

"Rod exemplifies the kind of alumni involvement that is crucial to making RMC flourish," said Kristin Mullaney, RMC coordinator of alumni and parent relations. "It's an honor to present him with the Outstanding Service Award this year."

The Candlelight Dinner celebrates when faculty and students first occupied buildings on campus in January, 1910, prior to having electrical power activated. The group managed to put together a dinner of cold meat, beans, doughnuts, potatoes and coffee. Utensils were in short supply so some made do with forks, while others ate with spoons. They ate by flickering candlelight.

Reservations should be made by calling or emailing Mullaney at 657-1007 or [Kristin.mullaney@rocky.edu](mailto:Kristin.mullaney@rocky.edu). Cost for the dinner is \$20 per person with proceeds going to the RMC Scholarship Fund.