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News Release

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For immediate release

Dees Honored by SCC Foundation

The SCC Foundation recently celebrated the achievements, volunteer activities and philanthropy of well-known Chadbourne native Doris Scipio Dees, who served as the 32nd honorary chairperson of the 2009 SCC Foundation Dinner Theatre.



More than 150 guests attended in support of Dees and to show their appreciation for the difference that her life as a teacher, a role-model, and a dependable supporter of the community, her church and the college has made on the lives that she has touched.

She was “overwhelmed and humbled” at this honor.

“Nothing is quite as rewarding as recognition from one’s peers and family,” said

Dees. “This recognition takes on a special importance because it suggests an insider’s knowledge of that which is recognized. That the SCC Foundation has chosen to recognize me with this honor is very humbling. It says that you believe that my life and my contributions have been noticed and appreciated.”

Dees has been and continues to be a staunch supporter of the college. She takes continuing education courses, attends college events, volunteers for the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), takes international and national trips with the college, and serves on the college’s Board of Trustees and the Board of Directors for the SCC Foundation.



“I recognize what the college offers to its students and the community, and I greatly appreciate the fact that I am a part of this fine institution,” she said.

Several family, friends and colleagues spoke on her behalf. Henry Edmund, president of the SCC Foundation, Dr. Kathy Matlock, president of SCC, and Lonnie Fox, vice president of the SCC Foundation set the tone for the evening by welcoming and introducing the guests and



providing the invocation. Carl Stanley, Sr., Dees's brother-in-law, gave a stirring and heartfelt tribute to her character and influence. Ethel Johnson, her past colleague in teaching and her current travel partner and dear friend, praised her spirit and successes. Rhone Sasser, fellow SCC Trustee, testified about her dedication and determination.

Sue Hawks, executive dean of Institutional Advancement and director of the SCC Foundation, coordinated this tribute and made the evening extra special with her flair for creating an



atmosphere distinctly unique to the individual being honored. In honor of Dees's 30 years as a teacher, the evening's theme emphasized "apples for the teacher."



Crimson Cross, one of Columbus County's most popular gospel groups which is composed of William Sellers, Donnie Price, Tim Wright and Jason Ransom, supports the SCC Foundation and chose to honor Dees with their performance. The evening's guests thoroughly enjoyed this talented quartet.

As Dees concluded her remarks, she wanted to share another life lesson that she learned through this honor.

"As I look around this familiar room, I see you – the many people that make my life worth living. I am incredibly grateful that I did not have to die in order to experience this amazing evening. There is so much love in this place that is directed to me, and it inspires me to take this opportunity to remind everyone not to miss the opportunities you have in life to tell those in your life how much you love and appreciate them. Don't get me wrong; a tribute like this is wonderful. I have received such kind,



congratulatory messages that I will always treasure. I read these high tributes and marvel that this is how people think of me. Thank you to my family – those who are here in body and those in spirit, thanks to all who spoke on my behalf tonight, and extra special thanks to Sue Hawks and Meg Sellers of the Foundation Office for organizing and creating this event along with all the volunteers. Thank you, each and every one of you, for giving me this time with you. I



feel your love, and I will never forget this evening. This is the greatest honor that has ever been bestowed upon me and I am deeply touched."

Proceeds from the annual dinner theatre will be invested in the SCC Foundation ensuring that eligible





students may have financial assistance, faculty and staff may carry out special projects, student life at SCC may be enriched, the visual and performing arts in Columbus County may be enhanced, and funds may be invested for future needs at SCC.

For more information about the SCC Foundation, contact Sue Hawks at 642-7141, ext. 320 or at shawks@sccnc.edu.