Thanks to a gift of $1,000 from Agnes Grace—a 1959 alumna, current vice chair of the alumni association, and longtime Regina Library supporter—the Library staff is enjoying a new reference desk. Finished in warm cherry wood, the desk features a brass nameplate identifying it as a gift from Agnes Grace.

In addition, Ms. Grace recently gave another $500 for books in memory of her father, Charles, who served in World War II. The Library is now purchasing a number of academic titles focusing on America’s operations in the Pacific during WWII, including the famed conflict with the Japanese and raising of the U.S. flag on Iwo Jima. Several of the new books highlight the role of nurses in the War, including histories of some American nurses who were captured while serving in the Pacific. These particular books will complement the Library’s collection supporting nursing programs at Rivier.

Regina Library has been a recipient of the Grace family’s generosity since the 1950s, when Agnes’ father, then business manager of the Harvard College Libraries, first befriended Rivier English Professor Sr. Irene du Sacre Coeur. While Agnes was a student here, her father donated a room in Regina Library in memory of his wife, Agnes M. Grace. He continued his generous support of the library through the years, including donating books signed by Presidents Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, and other prominent U.S. citizens.

“Agnes Grace and her family have been tremendous supporters of Rivier College and Regina Library, in particular,” says Director of Development Mary Ann Oppenheimer. “Their contributions have resulted in substantial growth and development of the Library and its resources.”

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