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Wild West Barbeque: One for the History Books

By Jill Wagner

The much-anticipated Blazing Paddles boat race drew a wild crowd cheering on their division’s raft at the 11th annual Employee Appreciation Picnic on June 9.

The savvy relay teams of the Holy Rowers and Academaniacs quickly dumped the race’s namesake and used their hands in place of paddles. Representing the division headed by Vice President and Provost Sister Sally Furay, the Academaniacs took the lead and never lost it.

Father Barry Vinyard will go down in USD history for providing the clue to the four other teams that perhaps paddles were not the speediest mechanism to make it across the pool, when he clarified that one paddle must be in the boat at all times. With an affirmative from the judges, Father Vinyard tossed in a paddle, jumped on top of the raft and used leg and arm power to swim across the pool.

The University Relations team will go down in USD history for being the only team that did not take the hint, instead attempting to paddle its way down the lane. Despite boasting the largest cheering section, WE R UR fell hopelessly behind and never made up the distance.

Back on dry land, Vice President for Finance and Administration Fred Brooks handed out five-year service certificates to 38 dedicated employees. Sister Furay then announced the renaming of the staff’s annual award to the Manual Hernandez Employee of the Year award.

A carpenter in physical plant whose woodworking graces every building on campus, Hernandez was named Employee of the Year in 1986. The renaming of the award is a memorial to the 37-year employee, who passed away in February.

Celeste Weinsheim, executive assistant in the graduate dean and continuing education office, was named 1995 Employee of the Year. Runner-up honors went to Pam Bourne, student affairs, Dorene DeTuri, faculty secretary in the School of Business Administration, and Ruth Silva, principal baker in dining services.

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New Designer Following in ‘Big Footsteps’

By Jill Wagner

The wooden door just a few steps from the northwest entrance of Founders Hall is unobtrusive and simple, with the nameplate providing the only clue as to what lies beyond in the long, narrow office.

This month the name Ruth Stanton is posted on the door that for years read Prof. T. Whitcomb. Stanton took over July 1 as director of institutional design, a position that the retiring Terry Whitcomb held for 12 years. Whitcomb also was a USD professor of fine arts beginning in 1961.

For those who know Whitcomb, or the reputation that precedes her, it is no surprise the office has the look of a workshop, with paint cans, tile samples and furniture catalogs stacked on wooden shelves. Blueprints of the renovation of the Author E. and Marjorie A. Hughes Administration Center cover a drafting table in the corner. It is the work space of an interior designer whose hands-on approach to her craft has turned Alcalá Park into a universally admired campus.

Stanton says she intends to be just as involved as Whitcomb with campus projects, from the painting of classrooms to the designing of each office in the new administration building. "You have to be very involved and very personally aware of what's going on around you," she says. "It is often the detail that pulls the whole thing together."

In fact, it is the care for detail that so impresses Stanton about her predecessor. "There is so much thoughtfulness that has gone into the design and tone of the buildings, like the Spanish Renaissance signage painted on the walls, the photographs of Spanish architecture throughout the campus and the display cases in Traditions," she says. "There's a real sense of serenity and beauty that creates a very focused learning environment."

Whitcomb worked tirelessly to create a peaceful and cohesive setting inside each university building, having a say in everything from choice of floor coverings to lampshades to office furniture. Her familiarity with the campus stretches back to 1952, when she was the first graduate of the College for Women.

Stanton smiles at how much she has learned about USD — and how many miles she has covered on foot — since spending the last couple of months working part-time with Whitcomb. She brings with her a vast knowledge of traditional European design, including 16 years with the La Jolla-based firm Ross Thiele and Son.

Stanton has made numerous buying trips to Europe and considers those travels some of her best education in interior design. "Much of my training comes from going to Europe and buying and seeing and visually being a part of the history," she says.

The new director is eager to make her mark in USD's history but knows it will not be easy replacing Whitcomb, who has been a part of the university from the day it graduated its first student. "Terry has big footsteps to follow," Stanton says.

Wild West Picnic

(Continued from page one)

Weinsheim received $200, and her name is engraved on the plaque that hangs in Maher Hall.

Carmen Barcena, assistant dean of the School of Business Administration, was named Administrator of the Year by the Staff Employees Association. (Watch for profiles on all the winners in upcoming issues of the Alcalá View.)

Employees celebrating their 10-, 15-, 20- and 25-year anniversaries will be honored at a celebration this fall.
Smile!

Laura Nottoli is ready for some foot-stompin' fun.

Scott Gill, his daughter, Kristen, and Jim Heck enjoy some time catching up with friends at the picnic.

Employees celebrating their 20-year anniversary include (from left to right): Verna Demehy, Sang Hoang, Margaret Peters and Peggy Agerton.

Picnic Applause

The employee recognition picnic has come and gone once again, and this year's event seems to have been the best yet. The success of this picnic is due to a number of employees who, each year, go that extra step.

Thank you to our presenters: Sister Sally Furay, Fred Brooks and Judith Munoz. A big thank you to the emcee's of the Blazing Paddles boat race, that magnificent duo, Scott Gill and Rudy Spano; and to our race starter and official, Gary Becker.

A very special thanks to those individuals who were truly the heart and soul of this year's picnic: Greg Zackowski, Lou Magaña, Robert Sparaco, Patrick Noma and Dawn Shebesta.

Other people I wish to thank are Roger Manion and Fred Rocha. Additional picnic committee members: Cheryl Garner, Jill Wagner, Alicia Buenrostro, Carol Lynam, Becky Gilbert and John Martin. Box office and tickets: Kily Jones. Physical plant set-up crews: Thu Tran, Carter Edwards, Felix Leyva, Santos Rodriguez, Noel Vazquez and Mark Draper.


Thanks to these employees, the participants in the Blazing Paddles boat race and to all who attended for making the 1995 picnic a blazing success.

— Calista Frank
Hangin’ at the Hoe-down
The 1995 Employee Appreciation Picnic

Employees celebrating their 15-year anniversary include: (standing, left to right): Dorene DiTurco, Thanh Tran, Enrique Plascencia, Pedro Servin and Barbara Walsh; (sitting, left to right): Molly Lundy and Mercedes Bennett.

Two passes to Aquarius Roll-A-Rama; Lt. David Lawrence, naval science; Kim Lewis, PAP-legal clinic; and Jo Powers, faculty secretary. Two passes to the Reuben H. Fleet Aerospace Theater; Raymond Rodriguez, administrative data processing.

Picnic Prizes
(Continued from page four)
Two passes to the San Diego Wild Animal Park; Nancy Carol Carter, legal research center.

Each of the following employees won $5 gift certificates to Javacup: Edward Villanueva, accounts payable; Nancy Keaysian, law school; Ruth Lever, legal research center; Catalina Layva, general services; and Kristen Troneg, alumni relations.

Free lunch for two at Subway; Perla Bleisch, law school; and David Scheckelhoff, human resources.

Two guest passes to the Maritime Museum; Bridget Ingram, child development center; and Maria G. Perry, UC operations.

The following people each won two passes to Aquarium Roll-A-Rama: Lt. David Lawrence, naval science; Kim Lewis, PAP-legal clinic; and Jo Powers, faculty secretary.

Two passes to the Reuben H. Fleet Aerospace Theater; Raymond Rodriguez, administrative data processing.

From the USD bookstore: Steven Staninger, Copley Library, a T-shirt; Lorna Randolph, bakery/market, place a T-shirt; and Mercedes A. Bennett, accounting and finance, a sweatshirt.

Two passes to the San Diego Automotive Museum: Neal Hess, controller’s office; and Mandy Wiedower, Copley Library.

From the Family Fun Center: Free round of golf for four and two “Two For One” tickets: Pat Drinan, arts and sciences. Free round of golf for four and one “Two For One” ticket: Kathleen Kramer, engineering and physics; and Michael Carey, UC operations.

Two “Two For One” tickets: Dionicio Vegas, general services; John Rusler, Aromas; and Steve Spear, academic computing.

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Picnic Prizes  
(Continued from page five)

Each of the following people won two passes to the Hall of Champions Sports Museum: Adela Montejo, mail center (retired), and Jean Ritenour, career services (retired).


Lunch certificate for two for the faculty/staff dining room: Cheryl Getz, athletics; and Jack Boyce, financial affairs (retired).

Two San Diego Barracudas season tickets: June Aleman, telecommunications.

Two guest passes to the Aerospace Historical Center: Penny Sheppard, athletics; and Harry S. Howard, building maintenance.

Passes for three free months to the San Diego Fitness and Racquet Center: Trudy Snell, Copley Library; Cathy Joseph, communication studies; and Edith Wolcott, arts and sciences (retired).

Two guest passes for the Old Globe Theatre: Rick Hagan, housing.

Pass for two on a two-hour Harbor Excursion: Susan Lynn Crouch, administrative data processing.

Dinner for two at El Torito: Randy Bennett, athletics.

The SEA 50/50 raffle winners were: Manuel Rivera, grounds and maintenance, $200; Jane Gorman, theological and religious studies, $100; and Caroline Roberts, academic services, $100.

Congratulations!
1. Where is your department located?
The Ernest and Jean Hahn University Center is located centrally on the USD campus across from the law school and legal research center.

2. What are the functions of your department?
The university center was designed to be the locus for campus community life at the University of San Diego. In addition to multiple dining options supervised by dining services — the recently renovated Traditions, the bakery, the Marketplace, main dining and faculty-staff dining rooms — the university center offers meeting rooms, a study lounge, a music listening lounge, a TV room, computer room, game room, ticket office, Office of Campus Scheduling and the generous space of the Forum. The Forum is the setting for the majority of student and staff-sponsored programs.

Approximately half of the university center staff work with various student groups, facilitating their programs and projects as well as their personal learning and development. The other half of the staff work with the day-to-day operations of the center, supervising all the necessary physical tasks involved in the production of numerous events sponsored by students, alumni, staff, faculty and related outside organizations, and staffing and supervising the service areas listed above.

The staff makes conscious efforts to give student workers increased and varied responsibilities in order to facilitate their growth, development and marketable skills.

3. What is the biggest challenge your department faces?
The biggest challenge the university center faces at the moment is the potential cuts in financial aid currently under consideration in Congress. The vast majority of students who work in the center are on work-study. The elimination of that program would have serious financial implications for the UC. Moreover, if the various other proposed cuts should go through, fewer students may be able to take advantage of learning opportunities available through student activities because of the necessity of working off-campus to pay for their education.

4. How has your department changed over the past 10 years?
Ten years ago at USD there was no university center. There was, however, an activities program that has grown signifi-

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SEA Strands

The SEA recently received a memorandum commending several staff employees for their volunteer work at May’s graduation ceremonies. The memo read:

On behalf of the commencement committee, special thanks go out to Becky Gilbert and Andrea Letzring of Copley Library and Becky’s husband, Doug. These dedicated volunteers woke at 7 a.m. on graduation morning to help with the ceremony! Thanks very much, and I hope the SEA will help us again next year.

Gregory Zackowski, undergraduate commencement marshal

Upcoming events:

Summer Pops, July 4. A fireworks display will be held after the concert. Contact Kay Norton at ext. 2033.

Fun Day on the Bay, Aug. 5. Festivities begin about 10 a.m. There is a dessert contest, so bring your favorite treat to share and enter it in the contest. A prize will be awarded for the best dessert.

— Nancy Roos

Trivia Answers Revealed

The following are the answers to the Alcalá Park trivia contest published in the May issue of the newsletter. Greg Zackowski, director of operations at the University Center, turned in the most correct answers and won two tickets to Sea World.

The first annual employee picnic was held July 1985.

The name of the human resources department prior to 1985 was personnel.

Hank Egan coached men’s basketball before Brad Holland.

Kate Callen is director of the USD news bureau.

The reading room in Copley Library is named after Mother Rosalie Hill.

The men’s soccer team competed in the 1992 NCAA championships.

Author E. Hughes was named USD president June 8, 1971.

Carolyn Greer is head athletic trainer.

John Trifiletti ’78 is the director of alumni and parent relations.

The French Parlor is located in Founders Hall.

President Alice Hayes worked at Loyola University of Chicago before moving to Saint Louis University.

The people who have appeared on campus include Mother Teresa, Richard Dreyfuss and Abbie Hoffman.

True or False:

It is true the building under renovation is named the Author E. and Marjorie A. Hughes Administration Center.

Two USD graduate students did not open the Women’s Resource Center last spring. The center opened the fall of 1994.

Faces in the Crowd:

a) Iris Engstrand
b) Bart Thurber
c) Dennis Rohatyn

Department of the Month

(Continued from page seven)

By creating an area for the United Front, a coalition of multicultural organizations on campus. The Outdoor Adventures program has experienced a significant increase in interest and participation and the number of students involved in community service programs has increased exponentially.

5. What is the one thing you would like the campus community to know about your department and its functions?

The entire staff is committed to student development and student learning and to service to the entire USD community.

Alcalá View

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Editor:

Jill Wagner

Contributing Editors:

Michael Haskins

Trisha Ratledge

Production and Design:

Judy Williamson

Photography:

Ken Jacques

Rodney Nakamoto

Jill Wagner

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