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Employees Find Inspiration in Fellowship

By Jill Wagner

It's a natural tendency to want to take care of ourselves physically, emotionally and spiritually. Not many folks, however, are offered the chance to do all three at their workplace.

Through the athletics department and individual instructors, all sorts of teams and exercise classes are open to USD employees. The employee benefits package includes confidential counseling for emotional support. But what really has a growing number of employees excited is a lunch-time Bible study held every Tuesday.

"The Bible study is a filling up of fellowship and release of all the chaotic stuff that goes on through the day," says Alicia Williams, executive assistant to the director of human resources.

Williams, who regularly attends a non-denominational church, became interested in the group after a co-worker assured her the studies were not exclusively from a Catholic point of view.

"It's about growing in God in a general way," she says. "It's just what I need in my life right now."

Sponsored by university ministry, the Bible study is led by Mike McIntyre, associate university minister. McIntyre, who took over in May for Father Vince Walsh, was careful to keep the traditions of the group intact, including buying pizza and soda each week, and is delighted to watch the number of participants increase. On one recent Tuesday, employees and students were three layers deep around a massive table in the Warren Hall faculty reading room.

"There's a real hunger to understand scripture in a way that applies to our lives at work, home and school," McIntyre says.

"The people who attend are intent on growing and learning."

He attributes much of the recent success of the group to the decision to study the gospel of John — originally the Sunday readings for Mass were the sole focus of the study — a theologically sophisticated book that offers substantive issues to consider.

McIntyre starts the meeting with prayer, reads the passage for the day, offers his teaching on the subject then opens the discussion to the group. He'll often hand out maps or pictures to set the historical context of the story. McIntyre, who has been in ministry in various Catholic parishes for 20 years, developed a deep love for scripture during his days at an evangelical church, and says that influence helps him teach in a way that shows how to apply the gospel to our immediate lives.

Sometimes the group, now numbering about 25 people each week, will break into small groups of three or four to talk and pray specifically about needs in their lives.

"You get to see the beautiful, spiritual side of people," says Perla Bleisch, faculty secre-

(Continued on page four)
Print Shop Prince

By Jill Wagner

Dave Edgar and his wife, Joyce, have the kind of romance it seems we only read about in novels or watch on the big screen. Their courtship consisted of about 10 dates and a lot of letter writing over two and a half years.

Soon after a mutual friend set the two up, Edgar was sent to Vietnam with the Air Force, and he and Joyce took to writing each other every day. He served as a plumber with a construction crew that built barracks and other base facilities. When Edgar returned to the United States, the couple made a pact: If he were stationed in Southern California, they would continue dating and getting to know each other, if he were sent farther away, they'd get married.

They got married.

The Edgars now have three daughters, a grandchild, a home in La Mesa and a garage loaded with bicycles. Dave is a paste-up artist in the print shop and, four and a half years after joining the USD staff, was named a 1998 Employee of the Year finalist.

"Never does he complain about too much work or the occasional customer who comes into the print shop in a cranky mood," wrote Edgar's supervisors in nominating him for the award. "Dave will always greet you with a smile and complete your job when you need it."

Edgar came to USD after 15 years at home as a full-time dad, a stint that also saw him remodeling the house and volunteering with the PTA at his daughters' elementary school. His first exposure to paste-up work, layout and design on the computer came through the PTA, when the volunteers published a monthly newsletter and brochures for the school.

At the print shop, Edgar works one-on-one with customers — who include faculty, staff and administrators from USD, as well as outside schools, law firms and organizations — to design and lay out pamphlets, fliers, brochures, business cards and stationery. It's his job every year, for example, to revise the campus map, with new buildings and tram routes, handed out at the parking services office.

"I like the variety in my job," Edgar says. "Rarely do I do anything twice. I also enjoy working with people and helping develop their ideas."

The spirit of collaboration carries over into work Edgar does with the Staff Employees Association, the campus organization for which he is finishing a two-year term as president. During his tenure, the SEA has enjoyed increased visibility on campus for both its social activities and efforts to answer employee concerns about issues such as parking, the Performance Management Program and tuition remission.

While juggling work, family and volunteer commitments, Edgar is careful to also leave time for cycling and singing.

The bike riding happens to and from work twice a week, and also on Wednesday evenings with a group of friends who meet at Mission Bay. Edgar's summer vacation (Continued on page four)
Sweet as Spice; Easy as Pie

Judges at the Employee Appreciation Picnic sliced off pieces of applesauce, cinnamon swirl and zucchini bread in the sweet bread category of the second annual baking contest and deemed the spiced applesauce bread the tastiest. Stephanie Richards-Wilson, graduate program coordinator in the School of Law, provided the Alcalá View with her winning recipe.

Spiced Applesauce Bread

Ingredients:
- 1-1/4 cups canned applesauce
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup oil
- 2 eggs, slightly beaten
- 3 tablespoons milk
- 2 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon each, ground allspice and nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans

Directions:
Combine applesauce, sugar, oil, eggs and milk in mixing bowl. Stir together flour, baking soda, baking powder, spices and salt; add to applesauce mixture and stir until well-blended. Stir in pecans. Spoon into well-greased and floured 9 x 5 x 3 bread pan.

Prepare sugar topping as follows: Stir together 1/4 cup firmly packed brown sugar, 1/4 cup chopped pecans and 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon. Sprinkle over bread.

Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour.

Let bread cool completely before removing it from the pan.

Although it sounds like a big task, making bread doesn’t always have to be laborious. Take, for example, the second place recipe in the non-sweet bread category at the employee picnic bake-off. Judy Gould, field placement coordinator in the School of Education, kept things simple with her recipe.

Beer Bread

Ingredients:
- 3 cups self-rising flour
- 1 cup of beer
- 1/3 cup sugar

Directions:
Mix ingredients in bowl. Pour into greased loaf pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour.

Lucky Winners Will Get Books and Permits

The generous support of Staff Employees Association fund-raising events in the past year has enabled the group to give back to the USD community. During the last week in August, the SEA held a drawing for eight $50 textbook certificates for staff employees attending school this fall and also gave away five faculty/staff parking permits to randomly chosen staff members. The permit winners are Verdise Bradford, president’s office; Leopoldo Briseno, custodial services; Leanna Cummings, philosophy; Laura McIntosh, continuing education and Julie Wright, printing and duplicating.

The SEA board of representatives also voted at its August meeting to donate funds to the Manchester Family Child Development Center. A list of the center’s needs will be collected and the board will vote at its Sept. 9 meeting on the amount to allocate.

Advising HR

SEA representative Becky Gilbert reported at the August meeting that a new Human Resources Advisory Committee will form this fall. It will replace and expand the benefits advisory committee in place for the past several years.

Committee members will include one administrator and one staff employee from each vice presidential area, a faculty member from each of the five schools, a representative from the faculty senate and an SEA representative.

The first meeting is set for Oct. 13. A review of the tuition remission policy will be one of the committee’s first tasks, according to Gilbert.

SRC Open for Business

Faculty, staff and administrators searching for information on services available to USD students have a new place to look. The Student Resource Center, housed in UC102, is a one-stop referral service that can direct students to services such as tutoring, counseling, career counseling and planning a major. Information seekers can call the office at ext. 5995, visit in person Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., or log onto the center’s Web site at http://www.acusd.edu/src/.

New Hires and Promotions

Welcome to the following employees who recently joined the USD community:
- Daphne Congdon, finance and administration; Paula Cordeiro, School of Education; Patricia Harlow, undergraduate admissions; Jayne Marcus, undergraduate admissions; Daniel Rodriguez, School of Law; Shelley Willetts, patient advocacy; Sister Mary Quayhagen, School of Nursing; Jessica Betancourt, legal clinic; Keith Fink, marine and environmental studies; Paul Johnson, undergraduate admissions; Rosana Mendoza, undergraduate admissions; Denise North, paralegal program; and Cristina Ruffo, human resources.

Congratulations to the following employees who were recently promoted:
- Brenda Andreotti, graduate programs administrator in the School of Business Administration; Brynn Burns, career advisor in career services; and Laura Nottoli, events specialist in donor relations.

Classifieds

For Sale. ’84 Chevy Celebrity wagon, V6, eight passenger, five-door. Tinted windows, new paint, great running condition. 140,000 miles, looks good. Tow package includes smogged and license, June 1999. $1,500 or best offer. Call Jo Powers at 270-9291 or ext. 6919.
Psst...
Bits and Pieces from the Readers

One reader couldn’t help but wonder: Did the summer conference planners schedule the ironworkers and calligraphers conventions back-to-back for the pure entertainment of the rest of us? One week the campus buzzed with burly men in T-shirts and jeans, smoking prodigious amounts of cigarettes and eating tons of barbeque. The next week, Marian Way was a-flutter in hand-painted signs and the sidewalks were filled with crafty ladies in homemade sweatshirts. The contrast had to make you smile...

Nice new tram! Have you seen it yet? The totally enclosed bus can be driven on Linda Vista Road, unlike the monstrosity that still operates on the west end of campus; and will be used for the east campus loop.

Former Neo-Nazi Speaks at USD

The horror of hate will be spotlighted Sept. 24 when former Neo-Nazi Tom (TJ) Leyden is keynote speaker at the kickoff event for a campus-wide hate crimes awareness initiative.

Leyden will speak to the campus community at 7 p.m. in UC Forum A/B about his experiences as a leading recruiter and propagandist for the white supremacist and Neo-Nazi movements. He now works with the Simon Wiesenthal Center, a watchdog organization based in Los Angeles that fights anti-Semitism and other forms of racism. The address is part of the Associated Students-sponsored crime prevention week, Sept. 21-25.

The address is a ticketed event for the USD community only. Free tickets will be available on a first come, first serve basis at the UC box office beginning Sept. 8.

The “Challenging Hate; Bridging Identities” initiative is funded by a $12,500 cultural competencies grant and spearheaded by Rigo Chavez, public safety officer, Guadalupe Corona, assistant director of student activities, and Caridad Sanchez, Associated Students director of multicultural issues.

Funds will be used for educational materials and programs, including a brochure to describe the nature of hate crimes and bias-motivated incidents, a video entitled “Hate at USD, is it for real?”, and training for public safety officers about identifying and reporting hate crimes.

For more information about the event or initiative, contact Guadalupe Corona at ext. 4716 or Rigo Chavez at ext. 4517.

Bible Study

(Continued from page one)

Editor’s note: The Bible study meets 12:10 to 12:50 p.m., Tuesdays, in Warren Hall 201. Everyone is welcome. Lunch is provided. For more information, call Mike McIntyre at ext. 4251.

Edgar

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this year was a 500-mile cycling trip across Iowa. The organized event, with 12,000 riders and an endless stream of support vehicles, was a traveling bike party, Edgar says.

“It was just unreal.”

The singing happens with the Founders Chapel Choir on Sunday evenings and also with his neighborhood parish.

“Being involved keeps you going,” he says. “I like what someone once said: To make progress you’ve got to get out of your comfort zone and try new things.”

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