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AlcaláView

A newsletter for the employees of the University of San Diego / July/August 2003 / Vol. 19, No. 10



Parade of Pompoms!
Cheerleaders converge
on campus in August.
See page 4.



From the Lyons' Den

Mary Lyons started July 1 as USD's new president. Previously, she was president of the

College of Saint Benedict, and before that headed the California Maritime Academy. A retired captain in the Naval Reserve, Lyons, 55, also was a professor of rhetoric and homiletics at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, Calif. She taught at the University of California, Berkeley, and San Jose State University.

Maybe it's the mariner in me, but I figure the best way to get to know the campus is to just jump right in and get my feet wet. So, even while I'm living out of boxes and waiting to transition in August from my temporary quarters on the edge of campus to the Casa de Alcalá, I'm making myself right at home.

I've spent my first few weeks walking around campus and learning about its history, programs and, of course, its people. Don't be surprised if I pop my head in to say a quick hello. Over the coming months, I'll meet with trustees and university constituents, as well as with students and employees in all divisions.

I also plan to immerse myself in the San Diego community and already have taken a tour of the Linda Vista neighborhood with representatives from Community Service-Learning.

If you see me cruising the hallways or trekking across Marian Way, please stop and introduce yourself. I look forward to starting the new school year with you and sharing the challenges, opportunities and adventures it will bring.

— **Mary E. Lyons**
President

A Formal Introduction

The coming out party for the Donald P. Shiley Center for Science and Technology was every bit as elegant as the facility itself. Some 600 people attended the June 28 black-tie affair and celebrated the dedication of the most significant addition to USD's academic infrastructure since the university was founded 54 years ago.

The dedication was an opportunity to acknowledge the many driving forces behind the 150,000-square-foot center, including Donald and Darlene Shiley, longtime patrons of USD, whose \$10-million gift went a long way toward making the center a reality, and **Alice B. Hayes**, whose attendance represented her final appearance as USD's chief executive.

"I had very high expectations for this center, and I must say every one was exceeded," Hayes said at the event. "I'm excited when I think of what it will mean to future generations of USD students. It is a wonder."



Alice B. Hayes was honored for her contributions to science.

It's a wonder too that Olin Hall's parking lot was transformed into a formal dining area for the event, coordinated by the Office of Corporate Relations and the Office of Event Management. Guests could be forgiven for forgetting they were celebrating on asphalt as they dined under a large tent with clear panels on top and a blanket of synthetic turf underfoot.


Of course, having 598 of your closest friends over for dinner can be a headache for any host. **Jeannie Henderson**, director of event management, says a small army of USD staff helped the gala come off without a hitch.



With great fanfare, the Shileys cut the ceremonial ribbon.

"Facilities, landscaping, parking services, public safety, just to name a few ... so many departments went above and beyond for this," Henderson says. "It took about a week to physically transform the Olin lot for the event. It was a huge effort."

Another staffer who worked behind the scenes to make sure things ran smoothly was **Stephanie Reighley**, executive assistant in development, who enlisted her daughter Lacie and sister Jennifer as volunteer reinforcements, and says the detailed planning made the event run smoothly. But a little problem required a creative solution. The Imaginators, a Cirque-du-Soliel-like troupe of acrobats, were scheduled to perform after dinner on a cube made of metal bars — bars that became slick with dew as the marine layer set in.

"Jennifer suggested we bring in a tall space heater to keep the bars dry, so a few of us hoisted it up on the little stage," Reighley says. "We didn't want guests to see it, so we had to time it right to get it off the stage before anyone noticed, but leave it up long enough to keep everything dry. It wasn't easy to move, but it worked out perfectly." 

Hula Hooligans on Hand for the Hawaiian Holiday

There were hula skirts and Don Ho shirts. There was food and fun and, after weeks of cloudy skies, there was even some sun.

Alice B. Hayes, who retired days later as USD's president, kicked off this year's Staff Employee Recognition Picnic by saying *aloha*, which appropriately means both hello and goodbye. For a few hours on June 28, the Copley Library lawn was transformed into an island paradise, where hundreds of employees, alumni and family members enjoyed the event, which this year was done with a hint of all things Hawaiian.

"The employee picnic is a great time for people of all ages," said Robert Beamer of School of Law admissions, who, along with annual giving's Anna Backholm, stretched out on the grass and basked in the sun. "It's a chance for everyone to sit back and relax."

Hawaiian dancers wowed the crowd with graceful choreography that told stories of the islands' history.



Performers, who through dance told the stories of Hawaii, were hip to the crowd's fervor for island fever.

"I'm having fun," said onlooker 10-year-old Daniella Gomez, whose father, **Sixto Gomez**, works in facilities management. "What they're doing looks so easy, but I know it must be hard."

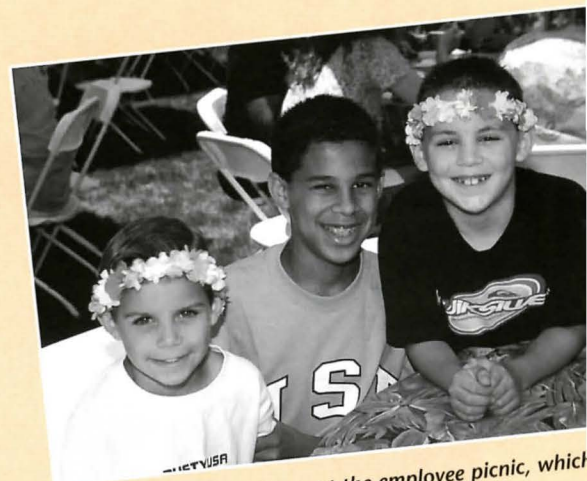
For many, the picnic was a family affair. Anne (Sperrazzo) Fishburne '92 and brothers Mark Sperrazzo '85 and John Sperrazzo '90 have attended the picnic for years with their father, psychology Professor **Gerald Sperrazzo**, who retired in 2000 after 34 years.

"Being here is like coming home," Fishburne said. "We've had so many good times here and, after all these years, we still feel like we're part of it all."

The day was filled with gunny sack races, water balloon tosses, hula hoop contests and the popular chicken toss, in which three teammates, wielding an elastic sling shot, catapulted a rubber chicken across the lawn while the fourth member attempted to catch it in a plastic tub.

A team made up of student affairs' **Michael Catanzaro '01** and **Mark Kueppers**, along with **Michael Armijo** of ITS computing, and Thomas Lynch-Pastoor, the 12-year-old son of Vice President for Student Affairs **Bob Pastoor**, caught one chicken.

"Thomas did a great job," team members said of their young catcher. "He dove hard and was willing to put his body in harm's way to catch one. Now that's teamwork!"



Family fun was a big focus at the employee picnic, which many children who were Big Kahunas for the day.



Kids got a jumpstart on the fun and did what was known that day as the "Aloha Hop" in their modern-day version of a potato sack race.



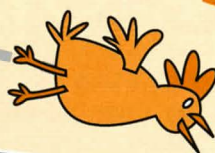
Rubber chickens were flying everywhere! velocity was strong shoulders, a keen eye, a cooperative chicken.



The picnic gave departments a chance to hang loose in true Hawaiian style.



Ten-month-old Paola Lopez, daughter of Luis Lopez in facilities management, attended her first USD picnic.



Children performed their own "hula dances" as they competed in the popular hula-hoop contest.



Anne (Sperrazzo) Fishburne '92, daughter of former psychology Professor Gerald Sperrazzo, made a big splash in the balloon toss.



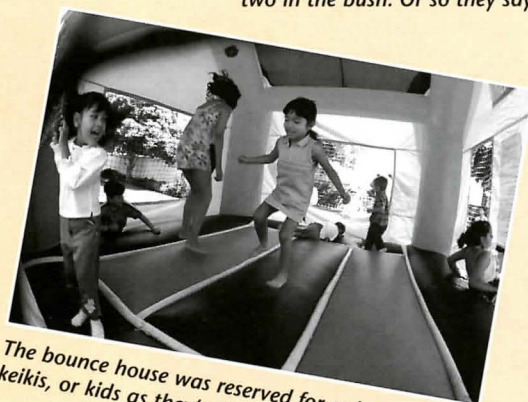
A new twist on an old proverb: A chicken in the basket is better than two in the bush. Or so they say!



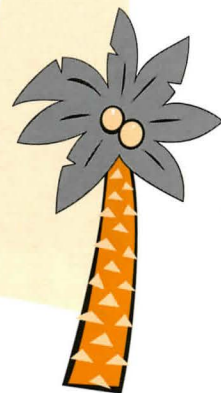
trick for maximum
nd, of course,



The president's staff: From left, work study student Maria Torretto, Yolanda Castro, Alice B. Hayes, Mary Whelan, Elaine Atencio, Kathy Bray, Fran Dolan and Darci Spasojevich.



The bounce house was reserved for only the littlest keikis, or kids as they're known on the mainland.



Thank You to the Picnic Prize Donors



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Planners Get Praise

Mahalo to those who helped put together this year's picnic. A sincere thanks to the picnic committee including: **Frank Chmura, Janie Carolin, Madonna Moreno, Janey Middleton, Wendy Tankersley, Mary Anne Timm** and **Joan Wolf**.

I also would like to thank **Kirk Bennett**, who did a fantastic job once again as master of ceremonies. **Khalid Maxie** and **John Frazer** did a great job with the music and sound system respectively. A special thanks to **Kathi Spittel** for her assistance with the Copley lawn and, as usual, our facilities management department was extremely helpful. Finally, thanks to generous sponsors, Scudder Investments, TIAA-CREF, and Valic. We truly appreciate their support in our recognition efforts.

— **Cristina Ruffo**

Picnic Committee Chair

If you or someone you know deserves to be put "In the Spotlight," send an e-mail to Krystn Shrieve at kshrieve@sandiego.edu or call her at ext. 4934.

USD's Top Toreros

The 2003 Manuel Hernandez Staff Employee of the Year was **Sandi Harrod**, executive assistant in the School of Business Administration.

"The School of Business Administration is extremely fortunate to have an employee of Sandi's exemplary character," said Dean **Curtis Cook** and Associate Dean **Tom Dalton**, who nominated Herrod.

Runners up included **Yolanda Castro**, in the president's office, **Melinda Martinez**, in graduate admissions, and **Daniel Rillera**, in the chemistry department.

Brian Fogarty, the director of development for student affairs and athletics, was this year's Administrator of the Year.

"Brian is tireless in his efforts to promote USD," wrote his executive assistant, **Pauline Thonnard**, one of three people who nominated Fogarty. "The success of the athletics department's fund raising is a direct result of his hard work and the relationships he has developed over the years."

Runners up included **Michael Haskins**, director of publications, and **Ron Pachence**, director of graduate and professional programs in theology and religious studies.

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE: Segway i Series. It's the vehicle of the future — you move, it moves. With the Segway Transport, you can travel more than three times faster than you can walk. It turns on a zero turning radius, runs quietly and was designed to act like a pedestrian. You can travel at a maximum speed of 12.5 mph for 15 miles on a single charge. Nickel metal hydride battery pack included. Also included: original box, front-mounted hard shell carry all, helmet, three keys, heavy-duty locking device and all manuals. \$4,800. Call **Marty Rider** at (858) 565-0852.

Nursing School Gets New Dean

Sally Hardin took over as the new dean for the Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science on July 1. She formerly was a professor and Ph.D. program director at the University of Missouri, St. Louis, Barnes College of Nursing. Hardin has held teaching positions at The University of Illinois at Chicago, the University of South Carolina and the University of Massachusetts.

Summer Conferences

August will bring to campus nearly a thousand high school cheerleaders and dancers from the Universal Cheerleader Association and the Universal Dance Association. The first session, Aug. 9-12, is expected to draw 300 participants, and the second session, Aug. 14-17, will attract a group of about 600, according to **Brianna Boyd**, an area manager for summer conference programming. These

groups are two among approximately 130 other organizations that will visit Alcalá Park this summer for conferences.

Center for Christian Spirituality

The Center for Christian Spirituality will hold a three-day seminar Aug. 6-9. The course, "Border Immersion Program," will explore and reflect on issues related to the U.S.-Mexico border. To register, call ext. 4784.

Concessionaires Visit USD

Recently, the National Association of Concessionaires, a trade organization composed of concession professionals from the sports/recreation, amusement/theme park and movie theater industries, held its 2003 National Conference in San Diego.

As part of the conference, members toured Petco Park, the future home of the San Diego Padres, and USD's Jenny Craig Pavilion and Torero Stadium, during which USD concession supervisors answered questions about products, pricing, production and operation.

Thanks to the USD Community

Nancy Olson, a USD procurement coordinator for 18 years, expresses her heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has sent cards, flowers and well-wishes since she fell ill this spring. She hopes people will continue to remember her in their thoughts and prayers, which she says gives her strength during this difficult time.

MILESTONES

Alicia Gallegos-Butters, director of USD's International Master of Business Administration program, gave birth June 4 to fraternal triplets. She named her daughters, who bear her own middle name of Maria, Gabriella Maria, Olivia Maria and Alison Maria. She reports that the triplets, conceived without fertility drugs, were born within five minutes of each other.

Mitzi Suzanne Quinson, executive assistant at the School of Nursing, and **Alexander G. Barnes**, mailroom clerk, were married June 28 at the Mission San Diego de Alcalá.

Gary Block, brother of **Rennie Block**, assistant director of the Division of Continuing Education, passed away on June 28.

Burton Shamsky, husband of **Roanne Shamsky**, administrative assistant in the School of Law, passed away June 4.

Jeanne M. Lynch, mother-in-law of **Mark Riedy**, director of USD's Real Estate Institute, and mother of USD Trustee **John T. Lynch**, passed away May 18.

Lois Wilson Schwebel, mother of **Nancy Carter**, professor and director of the Legal Research Center in the School of Law, passed away May 16.

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