

The

insider

A Publication for Employees of William Rainey Harper College
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All Employee Fun

inside

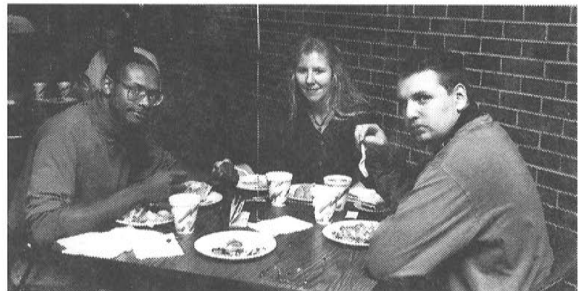
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The morning of All Employee Day included keynote speaker Sandy Queen's hilarious insight and President Thompson's presentation of the Outstanding Service Award to Jean Hoffman, LIB SER. Jason Tiggs, Deanna Collins and Ed Stowitts, PUB, enjoy the complimentary international cuisine. During the afternoon some employees took country line dancing lessons while Mark Johnson, IS, Donna Drake, ADM SER, and others explored the Internet.



President's Message



At the November Board of Trustees meeting, we recognized the contributions of two Board members who are leaving and we welcomed two new Board members.

John E. Coste has served on the Board since 1983. John has always brought a sense of purpose and responsibility as well as dedication to high standards for himself and the College. Some of his accomplishments include acting as Chairman of the Finance, Buildings and Grounds Committee, Chairman of the Budget Review Committee, and as the Board liaison for the Illinois Department of Transportation/Harper Project. Brian L. Heise was an interim member

since August 1995, serving out the remainder of Molly Norwood's term. Though his time on the Board was brief, he served his constituents responsibly and was committed to providing the best education for our students.

Both deserve our thanks for their generous contributions of time and expertise.

Our newest board members are Richard Gillette and Judith Hess.

Richard Gillette served as a member of Harper's Board for several months in 1993, having been appointed to fill out the remainder of Peter Bakas's term. Richard's background also includes nine years of experience on the Board of High School District 211 and professional experience as an electronics engineer at Northrop Grumman Corporation. When asked what he hopes to bring to Harper, Richard states, "I have a great love and respect for education and those who provide it. I know that much of my success is due to the educators that have touched my life. I have an extensive background and experience in problem solving. I hope to work with the other members of the Board to ensure that Harper continues its record of excellence."

Judith Hess brings an important perspective to the Board of Trustees. Judith is a licensed clinical social worker and a certified mediator. All four of her children attended Harper and she is an alumna. Judith offers this view on her new role as a trustee, "I took my first college course at age 40. The support I received from the faculty and staff at Harper gave me the incentive to continue my education, eventually receiving my master's from UIC. As a trustee, I fulfill a promise I made to myself a few years ago. I wanted to give back to Harper what it gave to me. My goal is to maintain its high standards and to spread the word that learning can be fun."

Other Board members include Barbara Barton, Sarah Born, Kris Howard, Richard Kolze, Larry Moats and student trustee Mari Solarte.

The Board of Trustees joins me during this significant holiday season in wishing you and your family a very delightful holiday and successful new year.

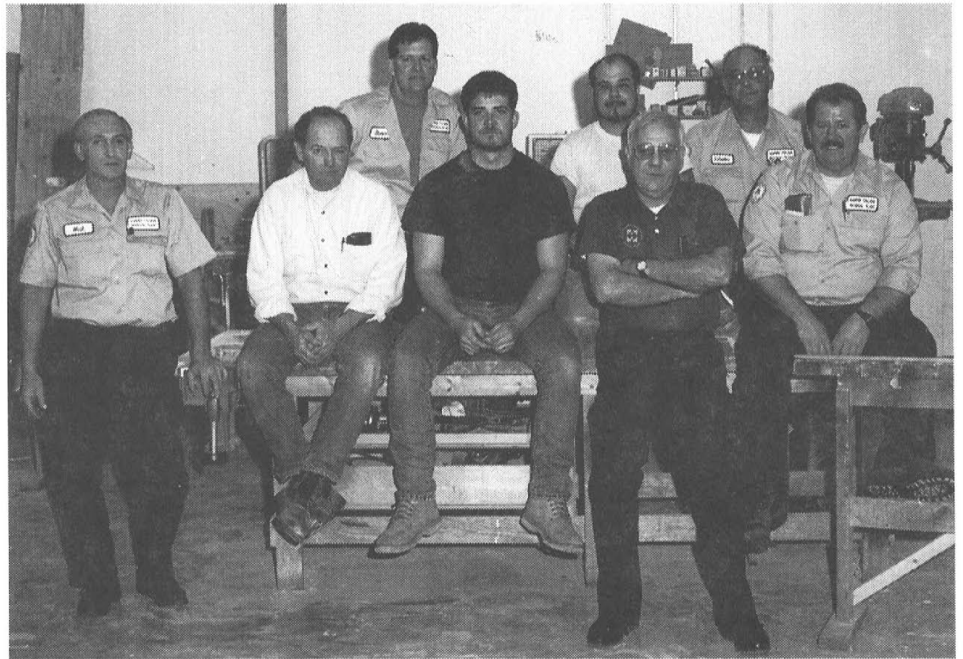


Focus on the Maintenance Department

Who can fix a toilet, install electrical receptacles, operate a tractor/mower, build custom shelving, repair a roof and get you into your office when you've lost your key? Any of the seven men working with Greg D'Allessandro in the Maintenance Department.

Each man has a specialty. For example, Ken Ward is a certified plumber and Tom Foley is a locksmith. But all of the men's skills cross over. When asked about his team, foreman D'Allessandro describes them this way, "There's nothing any of these guys can't do. Each one is a jack of all trades!" While the College's electric, water and other construction requirements have expanded over the past 10 years, the number of people working in this area hasn't. These eight men, plus two painters who work evenings, are responsible for the growing campus facilities. In addition to working at Harper's main campus, Neil Tufano takes care of all maintenance at the Northeast Center.

Safety is always number one with these guys. Val Schetter hates being the bad guy, but when someone consistently plugs a microwave, coffeemaker, and toaster-oven into a multi-power strip causing the shutdown of power to a portion of a building, he has to be tough. In fact, all work is prioritized based on safety. Remember the day you waited for maintenance to hang that new picture on your wall? They didn't show up until the following day because they were repairing the handicap lifts, and then replacing the outdoor lighting before sunset. They can be called back to work for any



These guys are serious...about keeping the campus running smoothly. Pictured from left (back row) Steve McCarthy, Gerry Gnaster, Val Schetter, (front row) Neil Tufano, Ken Ward, Steve Helwink, Greg D'Allessandro and Tom Foley. Not pictured are night shift painters Keith Kollenberg and Al Kornett.

emergency, and so are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Steve McCarthy said he particularly enjoys the challenge of special projects. Painting the tennis team's field box, with Harper's colors and logo, offered them a chance to be especially creative. The crew may be called upon to modify a part for the chairs used in dental hygiene, carve an ornate bracket for a shelf or design a pigeon trap. Yes, it's there on top of Building A. Built to control the number of pigeons on the campus, this humane trap lures the birds inside for later release to an open area. It has been very successful.

Presently, Steve Helwink is designing benches for the locker rooms. The current benches, which are made of walnut, are rotting from exposure to chlorine. Helwink is building the latest ones from a special plywood based material that will stand up to chlorinated water and other chemicals.

The combination of skill and experience in this department is great, and as new technology pops up on campus, the staff continues to adapt to it. Gerry Gnaster has this advice for you the next time you fill out a Building Maintenance Request, "We'll be there as soon as possible, so don't worry about that lightbulb!"

Harper Holiday

Some of Harper's "experts" share their thoughts of the season.

What computer game do you hope to find in your stocking?

A game called *Quake*.

Mike Swier,

technical support technician,
Information Systems/User Systems

How do you decorate for the holidays?

A real tree, and it must be pine!

Marla Daly,

lab assistant, Plant Science Technology

I place candles inside different size flower pots and arrange them on my table. Then I accent the grouping with fresh noble pine and frasier fir.

Carol Geiger,

floral design instructor, Plant Science

Before the ground freezes, dig a hole in your yard. Close to Christmas, purchase a live Douglas Fir to decorate and keep in your home. Early in January plant the tree in your pre-dug hole. Each step in the process can be a family event, and over time your backyard landscape will be a living history of your family's holidays.

Randy Illg,

associate professor, Plant Science

What TV specials do you consider holiday classics?

I remember a really rockin' version of *We Three Kings* done in *Claymation*.

Steve Lollino,

media production, Media Services

A Charlie Brown Christmas

Rick Wall,

AV/TV supervisor, Media Services

Hardrock, Cocoa & Joe

Tom Knoff,

coordinator, Media Services

Are your Christmas cards imprinted?

No, handwritten!

Peter Gart,

supervisor, Print Shop

Handwritten, of course. I believe in the personal touch!

Lynette Navigato,

bindery operator, Print Shop

What do you serve at your holiday meal?

Homemade lasagna, garlic bread and sausage for my husband. Homemade koloches for my kids!

Clarice Elders,

food service worker, Food Service

Do you budget your money for holiday shopping?

Yes, I'm in accounting, my motto is *No Splurging*.

Diane Race,

accounts receivable, Accounting Services

Of course I stick to a budget, I'm too realistic. However, this year I may make some impulse purchases; my daughter Sandy is expecting twins!

Linda Sorenson,

accounts payable, Accounting Services

Do you have any tips for staying healthy?

Try not to overindulge in any heavy caloric foods and do get exercise.

Patti Seitzinger,

administrative secretary, Nursing

Give myself time for family, friends, shopping and rest. Don't overeat, overdrink, or overspend. Exercise and get out of Chicago and go south!

Mary Polniaszek,

administrative secretary,
Health Service

Do you mail out holiday cards?

Definitely, but I mail early, right after Thanksgiving to get them there by Christmas. I know how the U.S. Post Office works.

Alan Gann,

supervisor, Mailroom

Do you ever give your artwork as gifts?

Thirty years ago I began designing and hand-printing my Christmas cards. I never run out of ideas, because each year's card represents a different significant event in the life of my family. For example, my grandson was pictured the year he was born. I am delighted that many people have saved all 30 cards.

John Knudsen,

professor, Art

Do you have a favorite holiday story?

In addition to the usual stories I have two others. *Joy and the Law* by Guiseppe Di Lampedusa. Lampedusa puts a Sicilian twist on Christmas where honor is more important than receiving. And *Swaddling Clothes* by Yukio Mishima. This is a story which does not on the surface appear to be about Christmas but is the story of an illegitimate child born and wrapped in newsprint and about the woman who wraps him in a brand new piece of flannel and lays him in an armchair.

Julie Fleenor,

assistant professor, English

What do you think is the perfect outfit for New Year's Eve?

Anything in black, less is more. For women, for men, black and more black!

Sandra Clark,

associate professor,
Fashion Design Merchandising

Insider's View of Dave Graham

Help me if you can I'm feeling down, and I would appreciate your being 'round. So won't you please, please help me? HELPI! Software trouble shooter, e-mail de-bugger and technical guru, Dave Graham, Systems Support Technician, IS/US, rushes to your aid. He expectantly seats himself at your terminal, hands rushing along the keyboard. He frowns and seconds later he locates the problem. Chocolate under one of the keys on the keyboard, causing keys to strike repeatedly for NO reason. Carefully removing it, Graham pronounces your terminal healed!

The reality of this work is the perfect foil for the fantasy Graham enjoys in his leisure time. Comic books, animation films and computer games such as *Doom* provide Graham with hours of enjoyment. "Japanese animation is about the best," says Graham. "It's more serious and more on an adult level than American animation. And I am looking forward to the release of *Quake*. It's a 3-D shoot-em-up which takes *Doom* to a higher level of realism."

Graham's absorption in fantasy does not stop him from cultivating other interests. He likes to keep people laughing. "It's a lot more fun and easier to relate to people that way," he says. And he has a passion for sweaters, having owned 35 at one time. "The count is down now," he says, "and most are presents—my only criterion being that I get something colorful." He enjoys ballroom dancing (which he learned because he didn't want to look foolish on the dance floor at his wedding) and traveling. Graham has cruised to Alaska and will soon travel to the Mexican Riviera and the Bahamas.

Fantasy takes over once again as Graham dreams of a cruise to the Panama Canal and trips to both Australia and Germany. "And I do have a long term goal," he states. "I would like to be ruler of the world. I think I can do it. Hmmm?!"

Born: Palatine

Family: wife, Ellen and bichon frise, Murphy

Education: three years at Illinois Wesleyan studying astro-nuclear physics, Bachelor of Science from Roosevelt in Computer Information Science.

Interests: comic books, science fiction, sports, dogs, ballroom dancing

Best advice my parents ever gave me:

My father's advice was, "Root for Green Bay." My mother's advice was, "Root for the Bears."

If time and money were not a problem: travel, travel, and travel

I would like to learn: Japanese, martial arts, flying

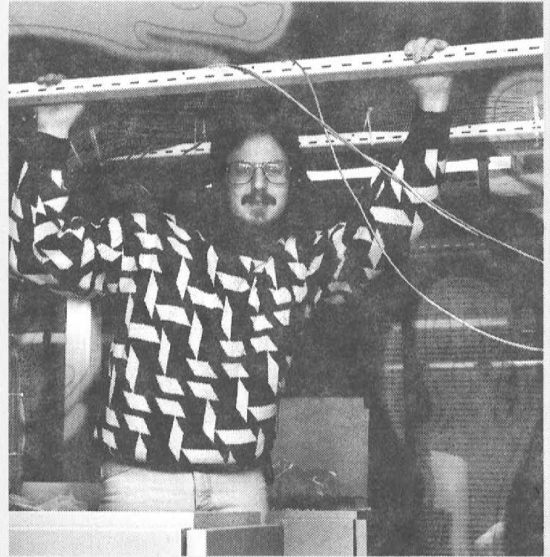
I don't care for: seafood

One thing I've learned in life: You need to be able to laugh at anything, especially yourself.

Favorite food: chocolate malts

Favorite movie: Silverado

Books I'm currently reading: *The Wheel of Time Series* by Robert Jordan



—Joellen Freedling

Departmental Developments

Michael Neiman shares his student activity experience in his new book, *Diversity, Student Activities and Their Roles in Community Colleges: Developing an Effective Program to Achieve Unity Through Diversity*. It is available at the Harper College Bookstore. **Eugene Magad**, BUS/SS, has co-authored and published *Total Materials Management: Achieving Maximum Profits Through Materials/Logistics Operation*.

Julie Fleenor, LIB ARTS, was part of a group of faculty from other community colleges who presented a workshop, *Cultural Tools: Realities and Representations of Technology in American Society* at the 1995 National Conference of the Community College Humanities Association. Julie's essay, *The Gothic Prism: Charlotte Perkins Gilman's Gothic Stories and Her Autobiography*, originally printed in her own anthology, *The Female Gothic*, has been reprinted in *The Yellow Wallpaper: Charlotte Perkins Gilman*.

In October, **Tom Thompson**, CSD, was part of a national teleconference panel. The topic discussed was *Educating Students with Disabilities: A Shared Responsibility...* **Kevin Geiger**, BOX OFF, designed a new production of *HELLCAB* at the Tamarind Theatre in Hollywood, CA. This is Kevin's third design for the long running hit. ...Professor **Dennis Brennen**, BUS/SS, was one of only 27 faculty members in the nation to be recognized for excellence and innovation in teaching by the Community College Consortium.

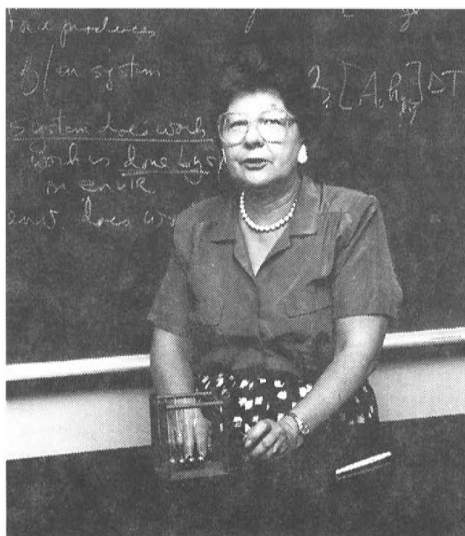
Julia Morrisroe, ART, traveled to Beijing, China to attend the UN Fourth World Conference on Women. Representing the A.R.C. Gallery/Educational Foundation, Julia participated as a member of an international panel of artists and her work was shown in a conference exhibition.

Sharon Willy, CSD, served as the local arrangements and registration chair for the 17th annual conference of the Council for Learning Disabilities...**Joan Kindle**, STU DEV, **Sheryl Otto**, STU DEV, and **Patty Roberts**, COM REL,

recently presented papers at the Interassociation Conference in Dallas. The topic was *Proving Our Worth: The Outcomes Challenge*. **Virginia Bender**, CIS, made a presentation titled *Numberbase Conversions Tutorial for Beginning CIS Students Using Multimedia ToolBook* at the League for Innovation in the Community Colleges' Eleventh Annual Conference on Information Technology. The presentation included a demo of the CD-ROM she created which is used in the CIS 100 and CIS 101 classes at Harper.

Welcome to three new staff members in Corporate Services, **Kathleen Thigpen**, coordinator, **Amy Vogelgesang**, coordinator, and **Marlene Foley**, program assistant.

Betty Windham is the recipient of the Distinguished Service Citation awarded by the Illinois Section of The American Association of Physics Teachers. Betty retired from Harper in August 1994, but remains involved as President of the Harper Chapter of State Universities Annuitants Association.



The Harper
insider

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