

The

insider

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Standing room only

Every Monday throughout the summer, new students came to Harper in preparation for the fall semester. As part of the orientation program, the students were welcomed by the Center for New Students, the Assessment Center, the Registrar's Office, Student Activities and Student Development. Working together, these departments processed more than 1800 new full-time and 1800 new part-time students.

Harper Child Learning Center
25th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, August 24, 2-4 pm in the Child Learning Center, I-131
Refreshments • Petting Zoo • Magician • Pony Rides
For more information, call Katie Collar at 658-0511.

President's Message



Welcome to the 1996-97 school year! It has been a busy summer at Harper College and I welcome the opportunity to update you on "what's new" around campus.

TECH PLAN

We have just completed the first year of the five year Tech Plan which was approved by the Board of Trustees in June 1995. E-mail and the Internet is now available to many employees, and the installation of Voice Mail will take place this year. You can check out Harper's home page on the Internet at <http://www.harper.cc.il.us>

RENOVATIONS

Harper's Physical Plant department has certainly lived up to the 'physical' part of their name! There have been many changes, improvements and renovations this summer.

Building I Computer Labs

The staff in Information Systems and Physical Plant have spent many hours in the renovation of the computer labs

in Building I. The facility, which will be open for the fall semester, features 250 computer stations. This state of the art facility will be a major benefit to the instruction of our students.

Building V Renovation

The greenhouse and instructional facilities in Building V also received a facelift this summer. The greenhouse shell has been replaced, the biology and plant science lab has been renovated and the facility has been wired for computer support. Building V will open for instruction midway through the fall semester.

Northeast Center

Changes to the Northeast Center include tuck pointing and roof replacement and installation of an elevator to allow for accessibility.

Parking Lot #2

Parking lot #2, located in front of Building M, is being resurfaced and re-lined. This parking lot and the adjacent perimeter road will be nearing completion by the time classes begin in August.

FIRST DONATION OF REAL PROPERTY

Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Cockrell of Rolling Meadows have donated property to the Harper College Educational Foundation. This property, located in Schaumburg, was formerly the corporate headquarters of Cockrell Food and Vending Service. During the early years of Harper College, the Cockrell company was the vending machine and coffee service supplier for the College.

The gift, the first real property ever donated to the Harper Foundation, is

valued at \$300,000. It will be used to establish the Betty and Matthew Cockrell Endowed Scholarship. The Cockrells have specified that the scholarship be available to any Harper College student who is employed within the district. I am pleased at this request, as this scholarship will be available to a wide range of our student population. We are grateful to the Cockrells for their generous donation.

ON-CAMPUS DEDICATIONS

George Vogel, retired Dean of Curriculum Development, created and donated a sculpture to the College entitled *In Search of Understanding*. We are pleased to accept this gift from one of Harper's own! The dedication of the sculpture will take place during the fall semester.

Dedications of the Roy Kearns Aquatic Center and the Diane Callin Memorial Tree will also take place this month during the week of faculty orientation. We hope that you will join us for these events.

HARPER CELEBRATES 30 YEARS

Although it seems as if we just completed our 25th anniversary celebration, believe it or not, next year marks the 30th anniversary of Harper College. More than 350,000 students have taken advantage of Harper's educational offerings since the College opened its doors in 1967. We celebrate this milestone in Harper's history and look forward to the changes and challenges that the next 30 years will bring.



Insider's View of Jayne Wilcox

Associate Professor of Chemistry Jayne Wilcox, knows a formula for success: Study to learn, rather than study just to complete a class. "If I had done that, I would have learned a lot more," explains Wilcox.

"It was really by chance that I chose the field of chemistry," recalls Wilcox. "My parents encouraged my sister and me to go to college and get as much education as we could. They believed that school was the key to financial success. Because they hadn't been able to experience college, I don't think they had the concept of what it also does for your mind.

Her career began in Bethesda, Maryland, working as a chemist in the Medical Service Corps of the Navy. "It was hardly like being in the military at all, it was more like MASH. But by working as an industrial chemist on a daily basis I discovered that I didn't really enjoy bench chemistry." She resigned her commission after five years to begin a new career as a teacher.

Wilcox and her husband Bob, who was also in the medical corps, moved back to the Chicago area. At that time many government funded science programs were being eliminated and as a result Wilcox was unable to find a full-time teaching position. Instead she taught classes part time at several area colleges each semester. These included Elmhurst, Oakton, Triton and Harper. "I had finally settled in at Oakton, teaching there exclusively for five years when the opportunity at Harper opened up."

Perhaps she got accustomed to the variety, because each semester she presents new material in her curriculum. "I like to change what I do in the classroom just a bit. I always try new and different things. Sometimes they work out great, sometimes they don't, but either way it's a learning experience."

Wilcox belongs to the American Chemical Society (ACS), a national organization for chemists. She is also a member of the Two Year College Committee on Chemistry known as 2YC₃.

Away from the lab, Wilcox enjoys playing the piano and the electric keyboard. "All those musical sounds you dream of are possible with a switch on the tone bank." She also enjoys HO scale model trains. In fact, the Wilcoxes had a custom-built shelf installed around the periphery of one room in their house, laid track on the shelf and built a miniature railroad town.

Born: Norristown, PA

Family: Husband, Bob

Education: B.S. from Chestnut Hill College, Ph.D from University of Pennsylvania

Interests: gardening, playing the keyboard and model railroading

Best advice my parents

gave me: Don't have a job while in school. Do one or the other, but not both. I pass this along to my students in this way: It's better to do a few things well than to do many things poorly.

If time and money were not a problem I would: continue to teach, but I'd visit my relatives more frequently.

I don't care for: superficial efforts

I would like to learn: more about electronics and how to speak German better.

One thing I've learned in life: there's a lot I don't know

Favorite food: any shellfish (a taste of the sea, which I miss so much!)

Favorite movie: almost any movie with Cary Grant or Deborah Kerr. I tend to like romantic comedies.

Book I'm currently reading: *Cheeseburgers*, by Bob Greene



Focus on the Assessment Center

Choose the best answer:

The Assessment Center is

- the starting point of most student's Harper experience.
- where the student's abilities in math, reading and writing are assessed.
- where the student is provided with assistance to understand the College's testing policy.
- all of the above.

Indicate True or False:

- The mathematics assessment test assesses knowledge from Math 050 to 400 level Calculus.
- The reading assessment test determines if a student needs developmental reading support.
- The writing assessment test determines if a student needs English 101 or developmental English.
- All placement tests combined indicate if a student needs ESL.

The Coordinator of Assessment Services is Tim Sares, who implemented computer adaptive testing at Harper. "Based on how the student answers questions at a specific level of difficulty, increasingly difficult questions are asked," explains Sares. "For example, the math test may begin with pre-algebra questions and end with trigonometry questions. Computer adaptive testing enables students to be placed, with a high degree of accuracy, by answering as few as seven questions."

The assessment tests are customized to the level of courses taught at Harper and are provided for no charge to registered students. Although the tests are not timed, it takes most students 30 minutes to complete a test. Students are allowed to take a retest, and since the computer adaptive testing system draws from a pool of 1,000 questions, it is unlikely that original test questions would be repeated on the retest.

If a student feels comfortable and understands what courses they need, they are given the assessment paperwork. Otherwise, the assessment is turned over to a counselor or the Center for New Students. "The counselor uses this information as well as the interview process to advise the student," says Sares. "It's a disservice to the student to let them sign up for whatever course they want if they are unable to handle it."

Tanya Bergman is a Testing Specialist. "The greatest amount of testing is done in the summer, when more than 4,000 tests are given," explains Bergman. "We support many different areas of the College. We administer the admission test for Dental Hygiene and the Nursing Program as well as the ACT National Test and the GED. There are about 40 telecourses we offer tests for, and we act as testing agents for some of the Big Eight and Big Ten schools, too."

Assistant Terry Langkan recognizes that an important part of her job is convincing some of more apathetic students that assessment testing is serious and this is their opportunity to make it count. "We want them to be successful!"

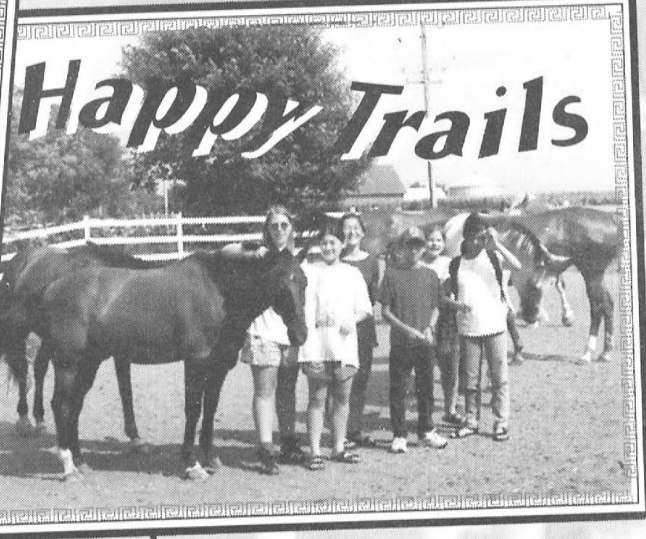
The department is open evenings and weekends to accommodate as many students as possible. As Evening Supervisor, Carol Bjorklund sees many older students. "I suffer from text anxiety so I am particularly sympathetic to what some of the students are experiencing," says Bjorklund. "Our system is friendly and once we make the student aware of that, they relax."

Seated in front of their user-friendly computers are Tanya Bergman, Terry Langkan, Tim Sares and Carol Bjorklund.





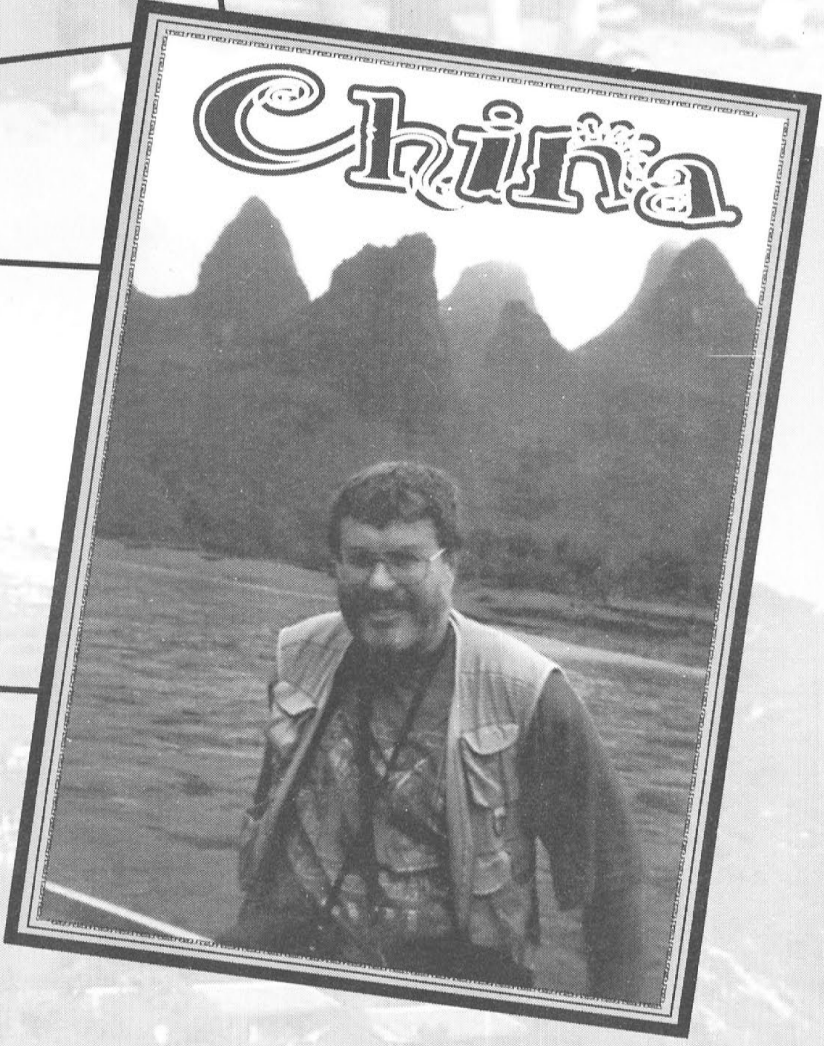
Hi Mom, Harper's Get Away Adventures are really cool! Now I can ride a horse English style. Some of the kids are even learning how to jump. Love, Jeff



I feel great! My new hobby is biking. Harper offers many off-road bike trips. The next one is along the Elroy/Sparta bike trail on September 6. Call Pam Frye at 925-6479.



Hello from the Li River in southern China. My next adventure will be to Kenya in February. For details call me at 925-6593 when I get back.
Dr. Allyn Kelley



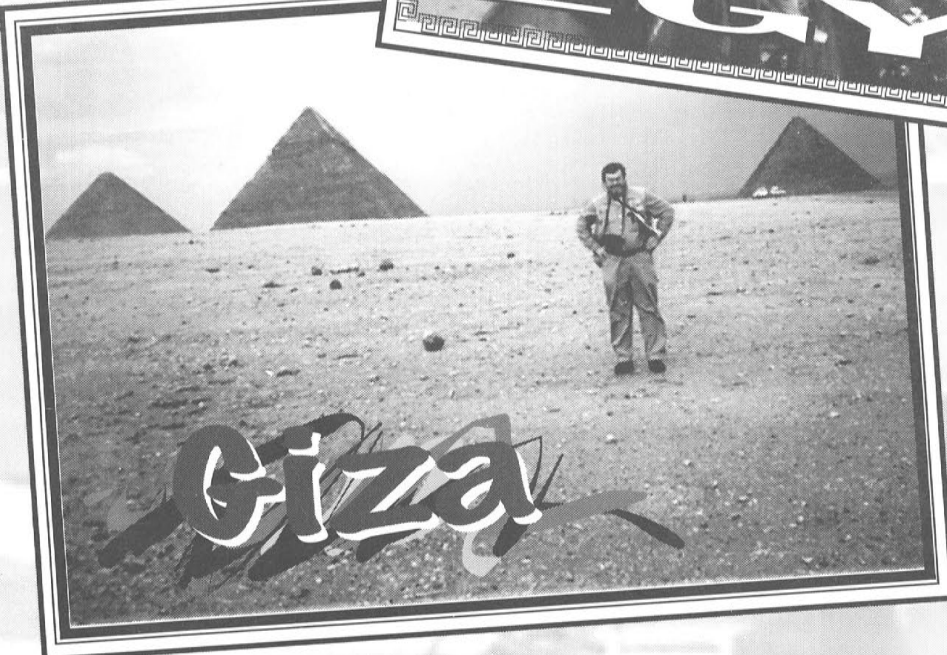
How did you spend your vacation?

The travel programs provide many educational and exciting options.



The Land of the Pharaohs
 Tour is fantastic! Dr. Allyn
 Kelley is leading us to more
 Egyptian monuments
 tomorrow. We have cruised
 Lake Nasser and the Nile.
 Can't wait to tell you about
 my camel ride.

Love, Janice



PAINTAGE
LISTER ISLAND
UNCLIPPED

¡HOLA! CHICHIN ITZA



Having a great time in the Yucatan! Dr. Helmut Publ led us to archaeological ruins, temples and pyramids. Great scenery in Uxmal, Mayapan and Tulum. Accommodations are excellent. Hope you can join us next March. See Dawn Spannraft for details!

Terri Bachara

Ted Groft
(Eva Groft's husband)

Bill Andresen



Diane Kinn

Explore



Helmut Publ

Departmental Developments

Amy Dixon-Kolar, AE/LS, has been appointed to the Board for the Chicago Area Interpreter Referral Service.

Charlene Padovani, HLTH SRV, attended the 21st Annual National Wellness Conference in Stevens Point, Wisconsin on July 13-19. Her presentation was titled *Award Winning Wellness on a Shoestring*.

Kathleen Thigpen, CORP SRV, received her Masters in Adult Education from National-Louis University, June 1996.

Joan Fiske, AE/LS, participated in the Twin Cities to Chicago AIDS Ride. Joan was one of 1,400 riders who each bicycled more than 400 miles during a five day period raising more than \$5,000,000 for AIDS care and services.

Congratulations to **Donna Woodruff**, OFC RES, and **Patrick Beach**, FD SER, who were married July 6.

Amy Vogelgesang, CORP SER, and her husband Karl welcomed a new baby, Alexandra Margaret, on June 14.

Corinna Dobek, AE/LS, and her husband Daniel welcomed their daughter, Ashley, on March 11. **Rebecca Smith**, WOM PRG, and her husband Rob also have a new daughter – Riley Smith Peters was born on June 19.

Rosemary Murray, HLTH SER, has three new grandchildren. Her daughter Kathy's baby, Timothy, was born in June. Her son Michael's baby, Michael, and her son Kevin's baby, Rachael, were born in July. All live out of state, but they will return to Illinois and be baptized on the same day.

Welcome to the following new Harper employees:

Francisco Aguilera, IS, **Barbara Barry**, WHP, **Kathleen Foor**, PERS, **Richard Kellerman**, IS, **Gregory Krisco**, AE/LS-AED, **Roberta Lindenthaler**, ACCT SER, **Elizabeth Minicz**, AE/LS-AED, **Mark Neubecker**, PUB SAF.

Retirees Corner

A general meeting of the Harper College Annuitants Association (HCAA) will be held on September 13 at 1:30 pm in E106 at Harper College. This special program, for retirees or those retiring in a few years, will focus on three areas:

- Health Insurance for those under 65 years of age after five years of Harper Health Insurance coverage
- Medicare Supplemental Insurance at age 65
- Long Term Care Issues. Representatives of Bankers Life and Casualty Company will present the program. Individual questions will be addressed after the presentation. Don't miss this important meeting!

Join HCAA by sending a check for \$20.00 to: Harper College Personnel Office, ATTN: Rose Trunk, 1200 W. Algonquin Road, Palatine, Illinois, 60067. Make check out to Harper College Annuitants Association, HCAA. *Note: You do not have to be retired to become a member. If you are 55 years of age and contribute to SURS, you can join HCAA now!*

HARPER COLLEGE ANNUITANTS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Type of Member: Annuitant: Still employed at Harper (Age 55 years+)

Membership Dues for FY (Sept. 1, 1996 to Aug. 31, 1997) **\$20.00**

Make Checks payable to: HARPER COLLEGE ANNUITANTS ASSOCIATION (HCAA)

Mail form to: Harper College Personnel Office, HCAA Attn: Rose Trunk 1200 W. Algonquin Rd, Palatine, IL 60067

The Harper
insider

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