

We Are...Marshall!

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • AUGUST 16, 2002

New Faculty to Arrive for Orientation

A full range of activities awaits new faculty members as orientation gets underway next week Aug. 19-21.

The events begin Monday at 8 a.m., with breakfast, greetings and introductions in the John Marshall Dining Room of the Memorial Student Center. From 9:30 to 10:30, the group will meet with award winning faculty members. From 10:45 to 11:45, "Teaching Through Writing Across the Curriculum" will be offered in Drinko Library 402. A pick-up box lunch will be available in the Shawkey Room of Memorial Student Center at 11:45, and an Information Fair will be available from noon to 1 p.m. in the Don Morris Room.

"Technology and Teaching" runs from 1 to 2 p.m. in Drinko 349 and 402. "Library Research" is scheduled from 2 to 3 p.m. in the Drinko Library, to be followed by "MyMU" from 3:15 to 4:15 in Drinko 349.

On Tuesday, Aug. 20, morning activities will take place in the Shawkey Room, beginning with a continental breakfast from 8:30 to 9:45 with a presentation on "All About MU." The breakfast will be followed by "Funding Opportunities for Faculty" from 10 to 10:35. A panel of award-winning scholars is on tap from 10:35 to 11:15. Lunch will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the John Marshall Dining Room. Following lunch, "Promotion and Tenure" will be the topic in the Shawkey Room from 1:15 to 2:15. "University and Community Service" will be offered from 2:15 to 2:45 p.m. The day's activities will close out with a series of presentations at various locations from 2:45 to 4:00 p.m.

The last day of the orientation, Aug. 21, features a continental breakfast in the Shawkey Room from 8 to 9 a.m., to be followed by the keynote speaker, Tony Grasha of the University of Cincinnati, who will speak on "Enhancing Learning by Understanding Teaching and Learning Styles," in a session that will run from 9 a.m. to

noon in the Don Morris Room. The last event of the day is an open house at the Marshall University Research Corporation, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Jerry Schroyer is Employee of the Month

Jerry Schroyer, Caretaker in the Department of Alumni Relations, has been named the Marshall University Employee of the Month for July, according to Jim Stephens, chair of the Employee of the Month Selection Committee.

Schroyer, who has been employed at the university for 11 years, was nominated by the entire staff of the Alumni Relations Office and Development.

"Jerry is our Mr. Everything," wrote Nancy Pelphrey, Coordinator of Alumni Programs. "He literally takes care of the everyday tasks associated with the Erickson Alumni Center and is called upon by all of us to assist us every day."

The nomination notes that 16 employees call upon him daily, asking for help with everything from broken lights, broken air conditioners, moving furniture, fixing leaks, finding equipment, trimming shrubs, watering plants, carrying heavy items, transporting materials for an event, photographing events, to teaching software and fixing computers.

Self-taught on computers, "Jerry is always willing to go out of his way to help me with any hardware or software problems I encounter," said Dick McCray, Director of the Annual Fund. "He serves as a great sounding board for ideas. He gives reasoned and useful counsel based on his knowledge of software and hardware systems."

Sam Stanley, who recently retired as Assistant Vice President for Alumni Relations, notes, "Jerry is a very important part of

the Alumni Relations Office. His knowledge and expertise in so many areas in the day-to-day operations in this office are vast. He is somehow able to do almost any task put before him and he pitches in to help in any endeavor."

Sharon Peters, Administrative Secretary, adds,



Jerry Schroyer received a plaque commemorating his selection as Employee of the Month from President Dan Angel.

Events Calendar on the Marshall Web Site

Marshall University's events calendar is being updated daily and can be viewed at www.marshall.edu. To view the calendar, click on the icon pictured at left. Then, simply click the date of the month to see what events are taking place that day. Items for the 2002-2003 calendar should be sent to Dave Wellman, Director of Communications, at wellmand@marshall.edu.



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Dulin Appointed CITE Dean

Dr. Betsy Dulin, Associate Dean of Marshall's College of Information Technology and Engineering (CITE), has been named its new dean, according to Dr. Sarah Denman, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Dulin replaces Dr. James W. Hooper, who stepped down last month. He had served as the college's dean since its inception in 1998.

A seven-year member of the Marshall faculty, Dulin is a Registered Professional Engineer and Licensed Attorney who has worked in the fields of environmental compliance and engineering. She is a former member of the West Virginia Environmental Quality Board and currently serves on the boards of the National Institute for Chemical Studies and the West Virginia Chemical Alliance Zone.

"Marshall's College of Information Technology and Engineering has grown rapidly during the last several years, and I look forward to an even more exciting future for the college as we

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Classified Staff Officers Elected

The Classified Staff Council has elected officers for the 2002-03 year.

Nina Barrett was re-elected president. Other officers include Joe Wortham, vice president; Martha Pierson, vice president for the South Charleston campus; Cora Westmoreland, secretary; and Muhammad Chaudhry, parliamentarian.

In addition, standing committee chairs will include Elizabeth Graybeal, financial affairs; Jill Burcham, legislative affairs; Joe Wortham, membership/election; Patsy Stephenson, personnel; Betty Cook, physical environment; Bernice Bullock, service; Muhammad Chaudhry, staff development; and Carla Cook, ad hoc constitutional committee.

Staff representatives to the Faculty Senate for the coming year will be Sonja McKenna, athletic committee; Elizabeth Graybeal, budget and academic policy; Jill Burcham, legislative affairs; Betty Cook, physical facilities and planning; Leah Tolliver, student conduct and welfare; and Charlene Hawkins, university functions.

We Are...Marshall!

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The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall!* will carry an issue date of Aug. 30, 2002. Deadline is Aug. 23. Send story ideas to Pat Dickson, Editor, *We Are...Marshall!*, 312 Administration Building, South Charleston Campus, or send by e-mail to pdickson@marshall.edu.



Grooms to Head Admissions

Craig S. Grooms, Senior Assistant Director of Admissions and Financial Aid with the University of Pittsburgh for the past three years, has been named Marshall University's Director of Admissions, President Dan Angel has announced.

Grooms replaces James W. Harless, who retired in January after 30 years at Marshall. Dr. Barbara Tarter has been serving as interim director since then.

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Scherer Appointed to CTC Academic Affairs Post

Marshall Community and Technical College has named Dr. Judy Scherer as the Dean of Academic Affairs, according to Provost Vicki Riley. Scherer began her position last month and oversees full-time and part-time faculty, the curriculum, programs and degrees offered by the community college.

Scherer has worked at several community colleges throughout the country. She was a division director for health and human services at an Oregon community college, conducted ethno-historical research for the National Park Service and developed a subsistence skills mentor training program for Native Alaskans and Alaska's Department of Vocational Rehabilitation.

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Tree to Honor Memory of Ella Zirkle

A living memorial celebrating the life of Ella Zirkle, an employee of the Drinko Library who died suddenly last March, will be dedicated in October, according to members of her family.

A tree will be planted on the Hal Greer side of the Drinko Library. The university is contributing a redwood bench and

plaque in her honor.

"The plan is to plant the tree this summer and have the dedication this fall close to Ella's birthday, which is October 12," said Patsy Stephenson, Zirkle's sister, who along with another sister, Jenny Holderby, works in the Drinko Library. "By then the tree will be 'rooted' and will have a good start. We'd like to have a ceremony and reception afterwards for family and friends and especially the co-workers here that miss her so much."

The tree is being purchased through donations, which can be sent to Monica Brooks in the Drinko Library.

"All of us in the libraries miss Ella Zirkle terribly. We feel as if one of our

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Jenny Holderby (left) and Patsy Stephenson, sisters and employees at the Drinko Library, stand near the spot where a tree will be planted in memory of their late sister, Ella Zirkle.

Grounds Workers Keep Huntington Campus Beautiful

The early-bird pansies were perky and the impatiens were, well, impatient to bloom. And during the spring and summer, there is the never-ending effort to keep the grass mowed—acres and acres of grass, that you can almost hear growing daily, according to Gus Young, supervisor of the Marshall grounds crew.

Anywhere you look on campus, no matter the season, flowers appear, shrubs are trimmed, grass is mowed, leaves are raked, trees and bulbs are planted, snow is cleared. And it's not done by magic, either. Young probably wishes all that work could all be done by simply murmuring a magic mantra, but actually it's the result of the hard work of the 18-member grounds crew who toil year-round to make the Huntington campus, in addition to several other Marshall-owned properties, shine.

The colorful flowers that dot the campus are carefully thought out in advance—both from a maintenance and budgetary point of view. Flowering plants are placed principally in high profile areas, such as in and around the Student Center Plaza, and they're chosen for the color they bring to the campus as well as for their durability. With all their other duties, the grounds workers can't spend an inordinate amount of time maintaining the plants, but they want to make sure the campus looks welcoming to students, staff and visitors.

"When people come to Marshall, the first thing they see are the grounds and it is the first impression you have of the university, so we want everything to look good," Young says.

His crew makes sure the area around the John Marshall statue is full of blooms for as long as possible, as that is a favorite spot for taking photos. In spring and summer, petunias frame the Marshall sign on Hal Greer Boulevard and yellow and gold marigolds give instant color in the circle that borders the statue. Last year Mike Farley, a staff landscape gardener, with the help of the carpentry shop, added two tiers to the two-foot tall, 10-foot diameter circle planter which sits between Old Main and the student center. It was filled with petunias, which bloomed profusely all summer long, and garnered a lot of compliments, according to Young.

Actually, maintaining the Huntington campus is just part of the responsibility of the grounds workers, he says. They also cut grass and plant flowers at the president's home, mow at the university-owned property known as University Heights, and keep up maintenance at Cabell Hall and at Fairfield Stadium, which is now used for hospital parking but is owned by the university. They also pick up litter and trash from the numerous parking lots.

If spring is busy with its full calendar of big events, alumni weekend, the Drinko symposium, and commencement for instance, summer means trying to keep the grass under control while tackling chores that can best be done while students are not around.

"People think summer or times when students aren't here are not busy," Young relates. "Actually that's Physical Plant's busiest time. We can get in buildings and do things." His group is on call for a whole variety of chores—to move or rearrange furniture, help out with digging ditches for plumbing or other lines, and work with contractors.

And as the seasons change, duties change as well, as there are chores to be done year-round. Marathon grass cutting is followed by marathon leaf removal. It's a big job, Young says, to keep the campus in pristine condition during autumn. "In the fall, leaves are constantly being raked. You can do a big area of leaf removal, turn around and you can't tell the leaves



Members of the Huntington Campus grounds crew are as follows: (Back Row) Mike Farley (lead), Calvin Rowlings, Tom Laney, Ronnie Hoover, Jeff Tomblin; (Middle Row) Cecilia Scarberry, Bethsaida Thacker, Verlin Hughes, Jim Eans, Russell Tomblin (part-time); (Front Row) Chris Kennedy (lead), Mike Elkins, Rusty Dorton (lead), Phil Haye (mechanic), John Howard, Gus Young. Not pictured: Carl Black, Kent Holley, Orville France, Tommy Burchell, Mark Ward, Don Adkins (part-time).

were ever removed. At least with grass cutting, it lasts for two or three days!"

A priority in winter is snow and ice removal, something with which Young is very familiar. In his previous job as a Marshall mechanic, he operated snow plow equipment for several years. Of primary importance are the walkways and entrances to student housing and main campus buildings. "We want it to be safe for everyone," he notes. Since fickle snow doesn't pay any attention to the clock, it's not unusual for members of his crew to be at work at 3 a.m., and overnights aren't uncommon. In addition to the main campus, crews are responsible for plowing and salting at the president's home and University Heights.

During December, working with student representatives and Mrs. Pat Angel, the grounds crew helps decorate the campus for holiday celebrations, hanging lights and other decorations, which are removed before classes start in January. Then there's all that maintenance on the many pieces of equipment they use—vehicles, mowers, blowers, backhoe and even a farm tractor.

Up until a year and a half ago, Young, who has been at Marshall for 24 years, was a mechanic who maintained Physical Plant's equipment and fleet of vehicles. And for five years he helped transport athletic teams by bus, the most common mode of transportation back then.

After he was named grounds supervisor, Young found himself scoping out other college campuses to see how their grounds were maintained. He had a good opportunity for some close-up observations when he and his wife, Betty Jo, took their daughter, Heather, to visit several colleges.

"I'd catch myself looking at how well the campuses were maintained and what type of equipment they had," he says with a laugh. Heather, who was president of the honor society and majorette captain at Huntington High School, eventually accepted a scholarship to Wingate University in North Carolina, a private university with well-kept grounds, no doubt.

Young gives full credit to his crew for the work done on the campus. "I'm their supervisor but they do the work. If other departments need assistance, we always try to help. We want the campus to look just as good as possible. That's why we try to do the best job possible on the grass cutting, flower planting, leaf and snow removal and all our other duties. We want everyone who comes to Marshall to leave with a good impression that this would be a great place to be a student and to work!"

Library Tree

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brightest lights has gone out,” said Barbara Winters, Director of Libraries. “We believe that planting a living memorial and watching it thrive and grow will help us cope with our profound sorrow. And, we are thrilled that it will be there for future generations of students, faculty, and staff to enjoy.”

Monica Brooks, Associate Director of Libraries, said, “If we were in a situation that was even a little bit tense, Ella used her humor and wit to diffuse potential problems. She also made everyone who spent time with her feel good—she was not selfish and never hesitated to assist her co-workers with any tasks or projects ... In addition to the personal loss we are all feeling, we have lost a bright employee who was already on her way to success.”

Librarian David Gray remembers, “Ella had a sense of humor and a directness which she combined with a caring and optimistic outlook, and that’s a rare combination.”

The memorial is particularly important to Zirkle’s family, Stephenson says. “Ella was only here for a short period of time, 28 years of sunshine and joy. Her family, husband David, and children Brian, 8, and Breanna, 3, will be able to share in the growth of this tree we plant here. We all miss her laughter, her sparkling eyes and her loving heart.”

“Ella was a special gift to us, her family and friends,” her sister Jenny said. “We cherished our baby sister. She will live in our hearts forever, though we miss her dearly. That tree will give all of us, her family and those who knew her, something tangible to remember her by.”

And, she added, “Ella loved life. She loved living things. She loved to grow plants, to feed and watch birds and squirrels here on campus. A living, growing thing is the perfect way to honor her memory.”

Craig Grooms

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“I’m impressed with his diversity of experiences and strong recruitment background,” Tarter said of Grooms. “He will be a wonderful addition to an already strong admissions staff.”

Angel said he believes Grooms will help Marshall continue its move toward national prominence.

“This is an important position for Marshall University and we’re fortunate to have someone with the experience, vision and energy of Craig Grooms,” said Angel. “I fully believe he will assist us in moving the university forward in the 21st century.”

“The challenge is to get people to understand the importance of education,” Grooms said, “and to recognize the quality of education available at Marshall.”

Grooms earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Relations and Labor Studies from West Virginia Institute of Technology in 1985. He will receive a Master of Public Policy and Management degree from the University of Pittsburgh in December.

A native West Virginian, Grooms graduated in 1981 from Midland Trail High School in Hico.

“I’ve always viewed West Virginia as home; this is like coming home,” he said. “And Marshall is a beautiful place. It’s an exciting time to be at Marshall.”

Grooms is married to the former Veella Brooks, who is a Marshall graduate.

Jerry Schroyer

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“Jerry’s support, knowledge and technical expertise in the day-to-day running of the Alumni Relations office has been phenomenal....He is an absolutely vital part of this operation and we would all be lost without him.”

The staff reiterates they feel fortunate to have a person with Schroyer’s “can-do” attitude. “He is truly a Jack of All Trades,” writes Debbie Hicks. “He has come to my rescue for everything from leaky plumbing to technical computer questions ... You can count on the task being performed with a quiet smile.”

“Since our department moved into the EAC a few years ago, Jerry has helped me around the office too many times to count,” says Jean Augustine, Administrative Assistant Sr. “Jerry is very talented and versatile and is always willing to do whatever the task may be. I don’t know what I would have done without his assistance in the past and I know I can continue to rely upon him in the future.”

According to Jenny Drastura, who works in the Office of Development and Alumni Relations, “He has always been there to help me when I needed him, always with a smile and a kind remark. Jerry works so hard behind the scenes to keep the EAC looking good, and the MUAA events running smoothly....I have seen him go far beyond his call of duty on many occasions.”

Dr. Carolyn Hunter, Vice President of Development, has high praise for Schroyer. “Jerry is one of a kind. He is witty, polite and always dependable and helpful. He goes the extra mile. He loves working with the Alumni Association and our alums hold him in high regard. Jerry fixes everything from leaking roofs to sick hard drives. Our alumni programs are better because of Jerry...”

The staff closed the nomination by emphasizing, “Jerry Schroyer is most definitely OUR employee of the day, week, month and year.”

President Angel presented Schroyer with a plaque, balloon bouquet and a check for \$100. He will be eligible for Employee of the Year.

Betsy Dulin

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continue to respond to the changing needs of the state, region, and beyond,” Dulin said.

A native of Kanawha County, Dulin earned a bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering from the West Virginia Institute of Technology and a master’s degree in Environmental Engineering from Virginia Tech. She received her juris doctor degree from Washington and Lee University.

Judy Scherer

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A graduate of the University of South Florida, she received a bachelor’s degree in psychology, a master’s degree in gerontology and a Ph.D. in cultural anthropology. Scherer is currently completing work on an Ed.D. in community college leadership and admissions at Oregon State University.

“I hope to help faculty prepare for their 2003 North Central Association accreditation visit next spring and in the process help the community college maintain a high level of academic quality, accessible and affordable programs, strong community and workforce connections and lifelong learning opportunities in West Virginia,” she said.