



From The Ground Up

A PUBLICATION OF THE IPFW PHYSICAL PLANT

Winter 2003

Seven Physical Plant Employees Retire in 2003

By: Jayla M. Heller

Inside this issue:

Pictures of Retirees	2
A Year In Review	2
Holiday Safety Tips	3
Birthdays	3
Tuberculosis Tidbit	4
Promotions	4
New Employees	5

Imagine working at IPFW when there were only one building at the minimum, where today there are approximately 15 buildings and or parking garages and more to come with student housing. This was how the campus looked when many of the Physical Plant employees first started here at IPFW.

Seven Physical Plant employees will be retiring by the end of the 2003 year and they are Richard Court, Allen Peters, William Reed, Ezel Smith, Mike Bondar, Sam Kmety, and Don Lehner. I was able to sit down with a few of them to ask each of them questions about their future plans after retirement.

Ezel Smith started working at IPFW in 1950. IPFW as we know it now did not exist in 1950. Ezel first started working at the downtown site for 13 years. "It was in a small building. I was on one side working for Indiana University Center and Purdue University was on the other side," Ezel explained. In 1963, she then moved to the present location on Coliseum Boulevard and worked in Kettler Hall. She worked at Kettler Hall washing windows and she

said that they would not let her work anywhere else but in Kettler. She retired on September 4, 2003 and her retirement plans are to visit family. She said that what she enjoyed most about working for IPFW was making people happy. Many people at IPFW will miss seeing her smile everyday.

Mike Bondar started working for IPFW in 1978. When Mike first came to work for IPFW there were approximately five buildings which included Kettler Hall, Physical Plant, Neff Hall, Walb Union, and Helmke Library. I asked him what he enjoyed most about working at IPFW and he said that he loves his job, meeting a lot of nice people, and making new friends. Mike will retire on December 31, 2003 and his retirement plans include going to California to spend time with his father.

Allen Peters started working for IPFW in 1982. When Allen came to work for IPFW there were approximately seven buildings which included Kettler Hall, Physical Plant, Neff Hall, Walb Union, Helmke Library, Classroom Medical, and Gates Sport Center. I asked him how IPFW changed over the years

since he first started working here and he said that it was bad for awhile but then things got better. He also said that there are more buildings and he saw two parking garages being built while working here. I also asked him what he enjoyed most about working for IPFW and he said meeting new people and making friends. Allen will retire on December 31, 2003 and his retirement plans include selling and buying antiques.

Don Lehner started working for IPFW in 1983. When Don came to work for IPFW there were seven buildings including Kettler Hall, Physical Plant, Neff Hall, Walb Union, Helmke Library, Classroom Medical, and Gates Sport Center. The best thing that Don has enjoyed most about working at IPFW is the people. Don will retire on December 31, 2003 and his retirement plans include golfing and volunteer work.

We would like to thank Richard, Allen, William, Ezel, Mike, Sam, and Don for their support that they have shown IPFW campus throughout the years of working here. Best of luck in whatever endeavors you will be doing after retiring.



L to R: Don Lehner, Mike Bondar, Sam Kmety, and Allen Peters

A Year In Review

By: David Danielson
Director of Physical Plant

As I think back over the past year, a lot of activity has gone on that has or will impact the IPFW Physical Plant. Our student housing project is progressing rapidly and most certainly will be completed on time. The Willis Family Bridge was completed in September. Planning for the new Music Building is moving forward as is the Medical Education Building. The purchase of the Oh's building was just finalized last week and we began maintaining 55 acres at the State Development Center last April. Our enrollment numbers are continuing to increase as well as our building usage. Whether it's a new building, new land, or more students it most certainly has impacted each and every one of us!

From a personnel standpoint, 2003 has also brought some changes.

Ezel Smith, a 53 year Physical Plant employee, retired in September. In addition, six other long term employees are retiring at the end of this year (December 31st). Overall, the Physical Plant is losing close to 200 years of experience when they retire. They have all done a great job and will be missed. After all, it's the people that make the Physical Plant what it is! The customer service all of us provide and the effort it takes to do the job the right way the first time is outstanding. In previous issues of this newsletter I've written several articles about each of us striving to

"Overall, the Physical Plant is losing close to 200 years of experience when they retire. "

become the "Provider of Choice" for IPFW. These seven individuals have been a contributing factor toward achieving this distinction – and we are proud of the role they have played in this process.

As we look forward to 2004, I want to say thanks for the fantastic job all of you have done this past year. We've worked together to accomplish a great deal. And lastly, I want to wish a safe and wonderful retirement to Mike Bondar, Richard Court, Sam Kmety, Don Lehner, Al Peters, and Bill Reed who have given so much of themselves to IPFW and the Physical Plant.

Page 3



Holiday Safety Tips

By: Lauren Denhartog
Chief of Police and Safety

The hustle and bustle of the holiday season will soon be upon us. Don't let yourself become so wrapped up in holiday planning that you forget safety.

Here are some tips to help you get safely through the holiday season:

1. If you are going to drink, drink responsibly. Never drink and drive. Don't hesitate to call a cab if necessary.
2. As you decorate for the holidays, remember fire safety. Live trees and decorations are very flammable. If they are to be used on campus they must be treated with a fire retardant. (Call REM at 5744 for more details.)
3. If you go shopping at lunch or prior to your work hours, make sure all of your purchases are out of sight in your vehicle. Preferably locked in your trunk.
4. Don't leave children unattended in a vehicle, even for a few minutes.
5. Don't leave your purses or wallets in a shopping cart or in your vehicle.
6. When returning to your vehicle walk in a group when possible, always have your car keys out and ready to use.
7. Be alert to your surroundings. Walk and park in well lighted areas.

We normally see an increase in crime prior to the holiday season. These are just a few of the precautions you can take to aid in your safety. Use your common sense; don't take chances with your safety!

Have a great holiday season!

Happy Birthday!

January, February, March, April

JANUARY

- 1 Rebekah Blaettner
- 2 Tim Ellsworth
- 7 Carolyn Itt
- 15 Jerry McCagg
- 15 Nathaniel Stephens
- 20 Calvin Lewis
- 26 Jim Henderson
- 28 Jennifer Weigmann
- 30 Gary Cooley
- 30 Greg Miller
- 30 Mary Waskiewicz

MARCH

- 1 Steve Newhard
- 3 Barry Markin
- 5 Sue Earlin
- 6 James Hall
- 13 Charlie Showalter
- 18 Jeff Davis
- 21 John Parkson

MARCH

- 28 Barry Wygant

FEBRUARY

- 2 Percy Dance
- 3 Robert Habeger
- 4 Dale Winter
- 11 Lauren Denhartog
- 20 Mattie Irby
- 22 Bob Brooks
- 25 Tom Haner
- 27 Lora Caldwell
- 27 Frank Mace

APRIL

- 8 Laurel Dailey
- 14 Richard Igney
- 18 Greg Clements
- 21 Bruce Burdick
- 22 Sam Quenn
- 29 Renee Eschoff



Welcome to Physical Plant New Employees!

**Percy Dance**

Building Services
Percy is married and has three sons. His hobbies are hockey, basketball, football, and cars.

**Carden Henn**

Building Services
Carden is married and has three children. His hobbies include stain glass, reading, piano tuning, and playing guitar.

**John Keesler**

Building Services
John is married and has four children. When he is not working, he enjoys watching sports and spending time with his family.

**Brian Wims**

Building Services
Brian is single. He enjoys watching football and playing pool. He has times with a family owned restaurant business: BJ's Seafood Heaven.

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SEASON'S GREETINGS

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Our Mission

The Physical Plant Mission is to support the
higher education process of the IPFW univer-
sity community by providing an environ-
ment that is functional, safe, clean, and
aesthetically pleasing.

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FROM PHYSICAL PLANT!