



## PHYSICAL PLANT DEPARTMENT

### A Day of Remembrance

By Amy CdeBaca

Friday, November 11, 2005, the Physical Plant Department held its annual Veterans Day celebration to honor PPD staff, their family and friends, who are serving or who have served in the armed forces, and in memory of those who have served and are no longer with us.

The UNM Army ROTC Color Guard conducted the flag-raising ceremony, which was directed by associate director Harvey Chace, retired USAF Colonel and retired United States Army Lt. Col. Bob Garman read the names of New Mexicans who lost their lives in the line of duty over the past year. The ceremony

was moving, as always. It gave all who attended a moment of reflection and gratitude for our veterans.

In an excerpt from an essay by former Secretary of State, Colin Powell, *Of Memory and our Democracy*: “All of us lead busy lives. We have little time to pause and reflect...take the time to remember the good souls whose memories are a blessing to you and your family. Take your children



Photos courtesy of Larry CdeBaca

# Notables...



Photo courtesy of Larry CdeBaca

to memorial parks and monuments. Teach them the values that lend meaning to our lives and to the life of our nation. Above all, take the time to honor our fellow Americans who have given their last full measure of devotion to our country and for the freedoms we cherish.”

PPD veterans, we thank you and honor you for your service to our country!

**El Servicio Real** is published four times a year by and for the employees of the Physical Plant Department of the University of New Mexico.

Submission of letters to the Editor, articles, photos, and suggestions is encouraged.

## Editorial Staff

Director:

Mary Vosevich

Associate Directors:

Harvey Chace  
Wanita Kirkman  
R. Gary Smith  
Jeff Zumwalt

Editor & Design/Layout:

Mary Ellen Monroe

Assistant Editor:

Dacie Lucas

Contributing Writers:

Amy CdeBaca  
Toni Burris  
Mary Clark  
Rick Olcott  
Paula Reno  
Bryan Suhr

Visit us on the web at  
<http://www.unm.edu/~ppd>

## School of Architecture and Planning Dean's Honor List

Last semester, Amber Straquadine was included on the Dean's Honor List for achieving a 3.5 GPA during the Spring 2005 academic term. Amber is one of PPD's student employees and is currently assisting Rick Ruminski on the Space Inventory project. We applaud your efforts Amber!

## Customer Letters of Appreciation/Commendation

**John Cervantes, Don Blaisdell, and Dwight Kawulok** of Area Two were recognized in a letter from Claire O'Dowd of the College of Pharmacy for the remodel project in the basement of the Nursing/Pharmacy building. **Rocky Briggs, Mike Sanchez, and Gary Grove** of Area Four were recognized by Karen Abraham for their work in getting Hodgin Hall ready for the recent showcasing of Hodgin Hall. **Juan Garcia and Dacie Lucas** were commended by associate director Josh Kavanaugh for their extraordinary Sign Shop service. Josh is appreciative for the partnership developed over the past years.

## UNM Work+Life Manager/Supervisor Award

Congratulations to Area Four manager **Ralph Alires** for his nomination for the Work+Life Manager/Supervisor award. This is a program designed to recognize managers and supervisors who assist faculty and staff in balancing their personal and work responsibilities.

Even though Ralph did not actually receive this prestigious award, we are proud of Ralph's ability to value his staff.

## 2005 H. Val Peterson Award

The Board of Directors of the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Association of Higher Education Facilities Officers (APPA) presented **Mary Ellen Monroe** with the H. Val Peterson award as a result for her efforts in the development and maintenance of the RMA Web site. The Web site is a professional and valuable communication tool.

As editor of *El Servicio Real*, I have to say it feels a little strange to write about myself, but this is such an honor, and I want to say thank you to the people who voted to recognize me for this award.

## Gerald W. May Staff Award

Each year, members of the Staff Council Rewards and Recognition Committee screens a list of nominations, and narrows the list, which is then given to the UNM president for final selection. On December 15, **Joel Straquadine** was honored at a ceremony and was presented with the 2005 Gerald W. May Staff Recognition Award. Joel is PPD's manager of facilities maintenance. He was nominated for his contributions as a community leader and for providing outstanding customer service to the University community, as well as to PPD. Joel has been a big contributor to PPD by assisting PPD staff members with departmental relief efforts and the 2005 United Way campaign.

## United Way Campaign: The Physical Plant Department STEPS UP to the Challenge



PPD folks are generous and love a good time. Robbs Ribs staff and other members of PPD's business partners serve lunch to PPD staff who purchased a ticket for this event in November 2005.

by Mary Ellen Monroe

When it was announced that PPD would be having its annual PPD United Way cookout on October 19, the administrative support staff determined that we needed to come up with thoughts of how to make this event an *event to top last year's campaign*. PPD employees had just completed a food and supplies drive for the victims of Katrina, including the cookout organized by George Montoya to raise funds to help the American Red Cross' relief efforts. How could we stir the minds and spirit of our ever so generous employees who had just raised over \$1,700.00 for Katrina victims?

With the first signs of the 2005 Campaign already underway, the first flyer to reach PPD--STEP UP CAMPAIGN 2005, and Doner pledge forms, came the first thought of reaching out to Physical Plant Department employees via the PPD newsletter, *El Servicio Real*.

The *new twist* to PPD's annual fundraiser began to build by pre-selling tickets to a lunchtime barbeque served by Robbs Ribs provided by Energy Control, Inc.,

with dessert and beverages provided by Maloy Construction. It included a door prize drawing of gift cards and other items donated by PPD's business partners.

Even though we planned, organized, and directed, we could not foretell the outpour of generosity from our employees and our business partners. This year's United Way campaign raised over \$1,400.00.

Special thanks to PPD's **Joel Straquadine, Willie West, Juan Garcia, Daniel Grijalva, Carole Vollbrecht**, and others for gathering the support of PPD's business partners. Many thanks to our friends and business partners who donated food, prizes, and their time to make this campaign one to remember: Energy Control, Inc., Maloy Construction, UniFirst, Summit Electric, Wisco Supply, Reliance Steel Company, Buildology Construction Materials and Design, Royal Consulting, Awards, Etc., Sandia Peak Tramway, Neumark Irrigation, J-H Supply, Ewing Irrigation, Trane, Custom Paint Center, Pheonix Instrumentation, Lawson Products, Inc., UniSource, Johnson Controls, and T P Pump.

### Five- and Ten-Year Service Awards

- **Francis Bonanno**, Supervisor, Maintenance & Planning, 5 years
- **Mary Broemel**, Architectural Associate, 5 years
- **Ines Campos**, Lead Custodian, 10 years
- **Sergio Cisneros**, Lead Custodian, 6 years
- **Paul Davis**, Trades Inspector, 5 years
- **Stephen Freeman**, Analyst/Programmer, 10 years
- **Rick Garduno**, Structural Tech, 5 years
- **Anthony Garcia**, Utility Plant Mechanic, 5 years
- **David Gauthier**, HVAC Tech, 5 years
- **Louis Griego**, Electrician, 10 years
- **Lorenza Hipolito**, Custodian, 5 years
- **Billy Hromas**, Manager, Maintenance & Planning, 5 years
- **Julia Lasky**, Lead Custodian, 11 years
- **Guy MacMurray**, Utility Plant Mechanic, 5 years
- **Elsie Marquez**, Lead Custodian, 10 years
- **Christopher Nelson**, Supervisor, Maintenance & Planning, 5 years
- **Deanna O'Dell**, Accounting Tech, 10 years
- **Richard Olcott**, Manager, Information Systems, 10 years
- **Irma Pacheco**, Custodian, 5 years
- **Alfred Perea**, Utility Plant Tech, 5 years
- **Eric Poncho**, Utility Plant Shift Supervisor, 11 years
- **Cruz Rivera**, Custodian, 5 years
- **David Rookard**, Locksmith, 5 years
- **Jason Sandoval**, Turf Tech, 5 years
- **John Schuler**, Utility Plant Shift Supervisor, 10 years
- **Joseph Shortman**, Lead Custodian, 5 years
- **Leah Siegler**, HVAC Tech, 5 years
- **Gary Small**, Master Utility Plant Mechanic, 5 years
- **R. Gary Smith**, Associate Director, Environmental Services, 10 years
- **William Smith**, Lead Custodian, 10 years
- **Joseph Solano**, Facilities Services Tech, 10 years

See, *Service Awards*, page 4

## Two long-term PPD staff to retire

By Amy CdeBaca

**Rick Ruminski** began his career with PPD on November 4, 1974. During his interview for an associate architect position, Rick promised associate director Floyd Williams, that he would stay at least a year. He is a man of his word. He's retiring at the end of this year. (Even in 1974, Rick wasn't a new UNM employee. He worked in the University Architect's office from 1970-1973.)

Rick intended to work for the Physical Plant for about a year, then go back to school and complete his graduate studies in Architecture. Instead, he got involved with the organization and the people within it. He became an integral part of PPD's mission, and the job he was doing helped to support the mission of the University. His job had "morphed" into a career that was fulfilling to both him and the department. He felt he was part of a "work family."

In 1976, Floyd Williams reorganized the Physical Plant and Rick was successfully chosen to head up the Remodel Section where he remained until 2004. During these years, he managed many interesting projects, met many memorable clients, and experienced huge changes in the University academic and research environment.

On looking back, Rick takes pride in projects that helped create a more pleasant environment for learning, research and administration for the University. Equally significant to Rick's accomplishments, are the career paths that many of the individuals who worked with Rick have taken. Numerous Remodel staff members who worked under Rick have become managers and supervisors. Rick is proud of this and feels strongly about recognizing skills of those who worked for him and happy that he was able to help them advance their careers.

When asked how he feels about PPD now, Rick feels that the current leadership is strong and feels assured that PPD is on

the right track for supporting the University's mission competently with an eye toward the future success of the University.

Rick wants to thank those who took their time to mentor him and guide his career development.

Rick, we want to congratulate you on a fine career and we hope you enjoy some earned free time...fair and square!

In a *Campus News* employee spotlight article in August 1996, **Nora Boyer** was quoted, "No matter at what level, I've always enjoyed my work here." At that time, Nora was a 21-year veteran employee of the University. Let's see, that makes 30 years now. After 30 years of dedicated service to the University, Nora is retiring.

Nora Boyer is not a name that comes up when one thinks of retirement. It's hard to imagine Nora slowing down her pace. What will she focus all of her energy on now that she won't be managing the Health Sciences Custodial Services? Will it be more time with the family? Or perhaps a few extra rounds of golf? Maybe some volunteer work? Because we're referring to Nora, it's probably going to be all of the above.

Nora started her work at the Student Union where she worked as an *occasional* from 1975 to 1984. Then she moved to the UNM Bookstore, where she worked from 1984 to 1986. And in 1986, Nora came to work at PPD as a lead custodian. In 1994 she became the manager of HSC custodial services.

Nora had steady career advancement, thanks to her hard work and dedication, as well as commitment to education and self-improvement.

I'm sure in her retirement, Nora will take her own good advice and continue striving for self-improvement and will learn something every day.

Nora, the Physical Plant will miss you!

## Department New Hires

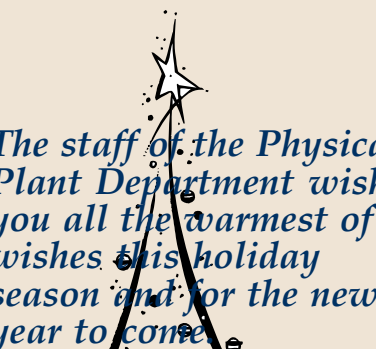
These Physical Plant Sections have hired the following employees since November 1, 2005.

Environmental Services Division:  
Grounds & Landscaping  
Turf tech, **Alexander Caulfield**  
Grounds tech, **Vanessa Griego**  
G&L Supervisor, **Randy Hisey**  
Turf tech, **John Snee**  
Turf tech, **Jeremy Roybal**

Custodial Services, Main Campus  
Custodian, **Alfred Bain**  
Custodian, **Frederick Dax**  
Custodian, **Ofelia Hernandez**  
Custodian, **Olga Hernandez**  
Custodian, **Rey Nieto**

Awards continued from page 3

**Bryan Suhr**, Supervisor,  
Arboriculture, 10 years  
**Tommy Tafoya**, HVAC Tech,  
5 years  
**Martha Varona**, Custodian, 5 years  
**Pete Wakitsch**, Master Water  
Systems Tech, 5 years  
**Karl Zamora**, Custodian, 5 years  
**Zaklina Zera**, Custodian, 5 years



*The staff of the Physical Plant Department wish you all the warmest of wishes this holiday season and for the new year to come.*



The University of New Mexico  
El Servicio Real  
Physical Plant Department  
MSC 07 4200  
1 University of New Mexico  
Albuquerque NM 87131-0001