



Employee Spotlight: Steve Starick

Steve Starick is an Engineer Design Drafting Technician for JMU Facilities. He utilizes computer-aided design (CAD) to track campus utilities and maintain the university's maps of the campus. Steve's interest in architectural drawing began in high school in Michigan. He pursued this interest through vocational classes and technical school. Upon graduation, he was immediately hired by a company that moved him to Harrisonburg. After 18 years with this company, Steve made the transition to JMU. His experience at the university has been a gratifying one, with a job that he enjoys and many great friendships.

Outside of work, Steve has a very fulfilling life. Much of his time is devoted to civic activities. Steve volunteers extensively through the Harrisonburg Elks Lodge, his church, the Masonic Lodge and even his motorcycle club. Through the Elks, Steve has helped raise funds to send underprivileged children to summer camp as well as to provide Christmas baskets to needy families. Through his church, he and his wife prepare dinners for volunteers of the local free clinic. They also fill book bags with school supplies for children each fall. Steve supports the Children's Hospital in Richmond through fundraising with the Masonic Lodge. Along with members of his motorcycle club, Steve completes charity rides and also helps to feed the homeless through the Open Door Program.

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Steve and his son-in-law laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington Cemetery.



Q & A with the New Assistant Director

Rodney Lam moved into his new role as Assistant Director of Operations last month. The Assistant Director of Operations is responsible for maintenance, housekeeping and landscaping areas for the university. Many know Rodney from his 21 ½ years in Facilities Management. He is excited about the new opportunities and was recently interviewed.

Tell us a little about yourself "After I served in the military, I came back to the Shenandoah Valley. I went to a career development class and was hired as an HVAC tech at Landes Heating and Air Conditioning. While at Landes, I continued taking classes to continue my education. I then went to Canon as the commercial service manager. In 1993 I came to JMU in the HVAC shop as a technician. After five years in HVAC, I went on to the BAS (Building Automation) shop as a tech. That gave me experience to move up to a BAS programmer and eventually the BAS supervisor. From the BAS supervisor, I was promoted to the manager over BAS and Energy. Eventually I became the senior manager for the Power Plant, HVAC and BAS. I have learned a great deal from each position I've obtained."

What type of management can staff anticipate from your leadership? "I see my position as a support position for FM. My expectations are for staff to take responsibility for their jobs while enabling others to do their job. I am not a micromanager, but have high expectations."

What are you most looking forward to in regards to your new position? "I am looking forward to working with all the trades and getting to know people. I would like to broaden the scope of FM."



Starick continued...

Steve’s purpose in sharing about his volunteer work is not to put the spotlight on himself, but to encourage others to volunteer. Volunteering is so easy and so rewarding. Steve is especially fond of the Christmas Basket Project through the Elks. This large undertaking involves the participation of lots of community members and various local businesses in procuring the donated items, assembling the baskets and delivering them to approximately 360 families. It is especially touching to see the sincere appreciation expressed by families that receive these baskets.

Volunteering has simply become a way of life for Steve and his wife. It has been a social outlet through which they have established and grown friendships as well as gained new experiences. Through his senior position with the Elks, Steve had the amazing opportunity to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery along with his son-in-law, who served in Afghanistan.

With a full-time job and active personal life, it is hard to believe that Steve is a surviving cancer patient. He has struggled with this affliction since 2005. He has experienced periods of remission, but it has recently spread. Although Steve is actively undergoing treatment, he strives to not let it affect his life. In fact, many of his co-workers and acquaintances do not even know that he has cancer. Steve remains positive and continues to focus his efforts on things that bring meaning to his life as well as to the lives of others.



New Hires/rehires- Front row (L-R):

Cindy Leake (lock shop), Jackie Stayner (hskp), Ashley Tolbert (hskp), Ashley Turner (hskp), Beverly Francis (hskp)

Back row (L-R):

Reid Weber (recycling), Adam Bruck (land), Mike Anderson (hskp), Darius Washington (land), Irvin Davis (recycling), Joey Meadows (hskp)



Announcements

- Choices: April 10, April 13
- Benefits Open Enrollment: 5/1 - 5/27
- Orientation and camps will be using the Warsaw Parking Deck 6/1 - 7/17
- Administration and Finance Meeting: 5/12
- Employee Appreciation Day: 5/14

JMU Facilities Birthdays for April

Darlene Smith 4/2	Bill Baker 4/2	Jolane Rhodes 4/3	Nicholas Ciccone 4/4	Pierce Pitsenberger 4/6
Sandra Nesselrod 4/7	Steve Tennyson 4/7	James May 4/7	John Keplinger 4/7	Aaron Largent 4/9
Tony Kitta 4/9	Marvin Gooden 4/10	Terry Grimm 4/12	Margie McClurkin 4/12	Jonathan Gordon 4/14
Chris Cooley 4/14	Jeff Knically 4/14	Greg O’Shell 4/15	Miranda Eppard 4/15	Sandy Brown 4/16
Debrah Lam 4/16	Jeff Holbert 4/17	Aaron Conard 4/18	Linda Hensley 4/18	Melissa Borrer 4/18
Esther Wright 4/18	Bobby Jenkins 4/18	Nathan Wisman 4/21	Preston Fitzwater 4/24	Justin Stilson 4/24
Brenda Hottinger 4/25	Jeremy Miller 4/25	Debbie Towe 4/26	Heide Horne 4/27	Lucius Hensley 4/28
Diana McNett 4/28	Donald Kidd 4/28	James Frank 4/28	Michael Lucas 4/29	Clinton Ross 4/29
Tim Dean 4/29	Albert Buracker 4/30			