

HELEN & STAN LINDER

Our Spotlight also focuses on a team this month – the duo of Helen & Stan Linder. There are times when UW-Whitewater provides opportunities for an individual and his/her spouse, and Helen and Stan were blessed with such an opportunity. They moved from River Falls to Whitewater in the summer of 1998 when Stan accepted a position on campus. The same day he was completing his paperwork, Helen was called for an interview. The rest is history and they have been enjoying their jobs at UW-W ever since.

Both are second generation UW-System employees, Helen having family employed for UW-Marathon County and Stan with family employed at UW-River Falls. Together, this couple has almost 50 years of service within the UW System.

Helen works in Recreation Sports & Facilities and has been there for most of the 10-year period she has been in Whitewater. She holds a degree in English from UW-Stevens Point and eventually accepted a position at UW-River Falls, where fate brought her together with Stan. Helen thoroughly enjoys her job and her work environment. She feels fortunate to be working with a great (and very supportive) staff and with all of the students that use the facility. She says, with this size campus, the variety and all the activity help keep her young. When asked for her thoughts regarding the changes currently happening on campus, Helen's response – "I think it's cool!" While she cherishes her memories of the old Williams Center, she feels the new field house and student athletic complex are a great asset and that other changes occurring on campus will better serve the students.

Stan is a member of the University Center Facilities Management team and he has been working in the UW System for almost 30 years. His responsibilities are diverse and include work in the athletic complex and the stadium. Stan's main job is chief pool operator. A third of his day involves testing the water, monitoring the chemical usage and maintaining the pool. He, too, enjoys the active environment – the people he works with and the diverse student population with which he comes in contact. He likes the fact that there is something different going on every day. His contact with students with disabilities has provided inspiration in Stan's life and he warmly recalls opportunities to work with students like Tony Sable. Stan is glad to see UW-W keeping abreast of the modern world and making the necessary changes to stay that way.

While they enjoy their work, Helen and Stan find time to pursue other interests. Helen likes gardening and reading, while Stan is into his woodworking (small and large projects) and garage-saleing. They have an older daughter, Amanda, who works at the medical college in Madison. They also have a daughter (Amber) who is in middle school and a granddaughter (Brianna) who is three and a half years old. They appreciate the challenge of keeping up with their children, their dog and four cats.

And one of the perks of working on the same campus? They can have lunch together – and usually do.