

RAE MACKOVIC

Rae started working at UWW in 1990, as an LTE in the Ticket Center. She had an Associate Degree in Marketing from Blackhawk Tech and hoped it might benefit her in the Ticket Center. Hesitant about starting work in an unfamiliar environment, she found herself in the role of Ticket Center Manager. After three days of training, she was left to her own devices. Feeling a bit overwhelmed, she dug in her heels, conquered her fears, and learned to handle all of the related responsibilities for the year that she held that position. She continued LTE work in the Financial Aid office and then moved on to Residence Life, where she split her time between Goodhue and Wells. A 91% permanent position became available in the Minority Business & Teacher Preparation Program in 1993 and she moved once again. Within six months, a full-time permanent position was open in Residence Life and she took advantage of the opportunity, moving back to that department. And there she has remained.

Rae and husband, Gary, reside in an old farmhouse just outside of Whitewater. They are working on their second remodel of the home, and are enjoying the completion of each phase. Gary works at HUSCO in Whitewater. They have two children – Raechel and Joe. Raechel is married (Michael) and has a new baby boy, Marius Michael, who is just a month old. She is the Corporate Benefits Manager for Great Wolf Resorts in Madison. Joe is a co-owner of Integrity Wireless, a cell phone company based in Ohio. He has a son, Reese, who is six years old. In 1983, following a family tragedy, Rae and Gary welcomed her sister's three children into their home. The families adapted well, and the children became very close. Ryan, the oldest of the three, suffered a massive heart attack in 2002—the result of an undiagnosed disease (Addison's disease)--and he was eventually removed from life support. He was only 27 and it was a hard on the close-knit family. Sisters, Kirsten and Lindsey, round out that part of the family. Kirsten and husband, Karl, have twin sons – Kollin and Kolton – who were born in October 2008. She manages the pharmacy technicians at the Peshtigo Pharmacy in Peshtigo, WI. Lindsey works in the lab at KSLP in Marinette, WI, and is going to school, enrolled in a program in the quality assurance field. Wild Bill, their five-year-old stray cat is the only family pet since their dog, Maynard, died last year.

Rae likes writing poetry and wants to put together a book about Maynard. She says writing is good therapy. She also likes ATV-ing, photography, and spending time with her children and grandchildren.

Rae's job duties in Residence Life include reconciliation of their facilities budget, covering sixteen credit card accounts. She is proud of the fact that all of their audits have been positive. She processes purchase orders, quick orders, blanket orders, student payroll, student hiring, and classified payroll. She oversees the Residence Life portion of the TMA work order system, working with contractors, vendors and campus staff. She is the "go-to" person when people have questions. Every job she has had provided her with an opportunity to work with different groups of people and that is a plus for Rae. She enjoys working with so many different people and the variety in her work has been very interesting. She finds satisfaction in resolving problems on a daily basis – the challenge appeals to her.

What does Rae like most about UWW? "There are so many wonderful people on campus", she responds. She has a great boss in Frank Bartlett, and she has fun working with students and helping those that come through her door. What she misses is the extensive student contact she had when she was working in Wells Hall. She found it to be a great experience being around students constantly.

As for the stream of changes the campus has been undergoing, Rae thinks it's wonderful and the new residence hall will be a great asset to this university. "Having Chancellor Telfer at the helm is great. He's such a people-person!" It easy to see that she believes UWW is on a positive course. And that, clearly, is a reflection of Rae's own nature.