

ELOISE SIMONS

You don't have to speak with Eloise for very long to discover that one of her greatest passions in life is horses. Or perhaps you could tell from her picture. If she's not here working, she is usually occupied with some task related to her horses.

On campus, Eloise is part of the University Center staff. She began working at UWW on October 31, 1988, in the Cashier's Office. She was there for about one and a half years, and then moved to the University Center, where she has been ever since.

A native-born Californian like her husband, Jim, Eloise spent a number of years traveling as she followed her husband's Army career. After Jim left the military, they ended up settling in Wisconsin. Jim established his own company – Quilter's Rule – which manufactures templates, notions, and rulers for quilting. Their daughter, Patricia, and son, Devlin, both work for the family business. Patricia has a master's degree in International Management from the Thunderbird International School of Management. Devlin and his wife, Jennifer, have been married for two years and have a new baby boy – Tristan James.

A bevy of birds and animals resides within the confines of their farm. In addition to their horses, there is a tri-colored female collie named Scamp, and a wide array of cats, chickens, goats and peacocks. Yes, peacocks! Encourage her a bit, and Eloise will freely divulge a number of pretentious peacock escapades. Cornering the limelight in these stories is the white peacock that seems to enjoy placing the lives of others in frantic discombobulation, at times causing physical injury. But outshining even the peacocks are Eloise's horses. There are currently three of them – Polly, Jewell, and Wind. Two are at home and one is housed elsewhere for the winter. For as far back as she can remember, Eloise has been living and breathing horses. She enjoys riding and jumping and periodically participates in competitions. That usually takes place in the summers and the two locations she competes are in Waukesha and Roscoe, IL. Eloise is on the Wisconsin State Horse Council Board of Directors and also on the board of the Midwest Horse Fair. She says that they used to participate in parades, but it is very time-consuming and they don't do that as often anymore.

As for her work on campus, Eloise keeps busy on the second floor of the University Center. Her main responsibility is to provide the cash for the different university operations within the UC. She is also responsible for providing the cash for various athletic events and events in the Irvin L. Young Auditorium. She likes working with Bob Barry, the executive director of the UC, and the rest of the staff. She is doing a lot more of the financials and enjoys that aspect of her job.

What she likes most about the campus is its proximity to her home in Burlington. She noted that she has had much longer commutes in her past employment experiences and thirty minutes isn't bad, at all. As for the changes that have been occurring on campus, she is pleased with the fact that UWW seems to be emphasizing education more – a plus in her book. She is also happy that Dr. Telfer was named the new chancellor.

Eloise's New Year's resolution? She would like to reach the point where she can be jumping three to three and a half feet (on her horse, that is).