

Way to Go Albert!

Volume 58

10/26/15

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

WEEK IN REVIEW

Custodian **Albert Huicochea** told me,

“It was the best day of my life!”

What he was referring to is receiving the **2015 SALT Center Director’s Award**.

Rudy Molina, Jr., Current Director of the SALT Center says,

“Each year, this award goes to an individual who represents the SALT Center story with pride and has led by example. In previous years, the award has gone to the founder and directors of the program (Dr. Eleanor Harner, Dr. Diane Quinn, etc.).

This year, Albert was nominated by his colleagues at the SALT Center because he has had such a positive impact on student success since being affiliated with the program. He deeply cares



about the students and it shows each day as he supports us and the building’s needs. Without Albert, we simply would not have the Optimal Learning Environment that we have set out to design.

It was an honor to present him with this award and I hope you can join me congratulating him on his professional and life achievements.”



*It takes a person
with a mission to
succeed!*

- Clarence Thomas

Congratulations, and thank you Albert, for reflecting so well on UAFM!

Shown in the picture to the right is an artist's rendering of the shade structure "gridshell" that will be the centerpiece of the CAPLA West Entrance Design-Build Project. Five students involved with the project will construct the structure, and are taking welding classes at Pima to learn the trade. **James Parker** from UAFM's Welding Shop is also working with the students to improve their welding skills for this ambitious project. The students spend several hours a week with James, learning and practicing welding technique.



James taught welding classes for the Union for 13 years, and enjoys sharing his knowledge with the students. He says they are eager to learn and have developed excellent skills in a short time, skills they will need to finish the structure on time.



The students appreciate James' willingness to share his skill and knowledge with them, and feel he has taught them far more than they would have learned from their Pima class alone.

Thanks James! - You are definitely a "class act!"

Hob-Nobbing with Geraldo!

FM | Office of the Assistant Vice President

Volume 58

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Electric Shop Lead **Joel Long** caught the picture at right of **Geraldo Rivera** on Campus Friday, October 23. Geraldo returned to his Alma Mater to break ground for the new Greek Heritage Park that will bear his name, in celebration of 100 years of Greek Life on campus. Geraldo graduated from the University of Arizona in 1965 with a Bachelor of Sciences in Business Administration and played goalie on the UofA lacrosse team.



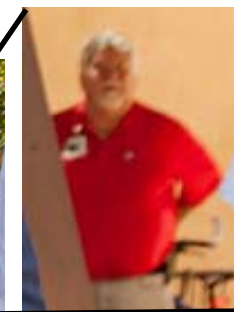
The Park will be built in the open space east of the Learning Services Building (105) to honor 100 years of Greek life on the UofA campus. Geraldo donated \$500,000 towards the park's construction, fondly remembering his years in the Tau Delta Phi chapter here.

UAFM staff assisted in preparing the celebration, as noted by Kathy Adams Riester, Associate Dean of Students:

"On behalf of Fraternity & Sorority Programs and the Dean of Students Office, I want to thank your staff for going above and beyond to ensure that all of our events went smoothly and looked good for the UA Greek Centennial Celebration last week. Steven, Alejandra, Gabe, Lou and Joel all were extremely helpful, especially when last minute adjustments needed to be made as things changed with the events. We all are very appreciative of their efforts. The students, Alumni and staff at all of the events were very complimentary and your staff contributed to the overall success of the weekend."



(Left—UAFM Groundskeeper **Mike Sestiaga** with Geraldo)



(Left—UAFM photo-bomber (**Lou Quezada** -Electric Shop GMM) was spotted in a UANews photograph!)



(Above—Rendering of the finished **Geraldo Rivera Greek Heritage Park**)

And They Came Home—in Drove

Volume 58

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

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Another Homecoming has come and gone, and as usual, UAFM employees were deeply involved in every aspect of preparation for the weekend. With 44 events requiring various degrees of setup, many shops were involved, not to mention the routine cleaning and



grounds-keeping functions that keep the campus looking sharp year round. Special Events coordinator, **Steven Natale** said, *“Though the Homecoming events happened in a span of a few days it took weeks of planning and meeting with customers to gather details to ensure their events went off without a hitch. After we get the details we send out write-ups to all the FM shops listing their requested services and responsibilities. This way everyone knows the whole scope of the event, what shops are doing what, and the times they are doing it. I am pleased to say Homecoming week was an absolute success thanks to all the FM shops working together and going above and beyond! I can’t say enough great things about my team. A huge thanks to **Alejandra Zell, Willie Arvizu, Eric Rada and Luis Valdez** who display all the exemplary traits any supervisor would love to see! “*



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*I wanted to tell you what a great job you and your crew did this weekend. I could not have asked for any better help! - **Heather Strasser, Director, Alumni Relations, Eller College***

*I just wanted to thank you for a very successful luncheon last week. On behalf of UARA, we were quite pleased and grateful for the fine job you did. - **Jane Dugas, UARA Luncheon Coordinator***

The Little Things Matter!

Volume 58

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

WEEK IN REVIEW



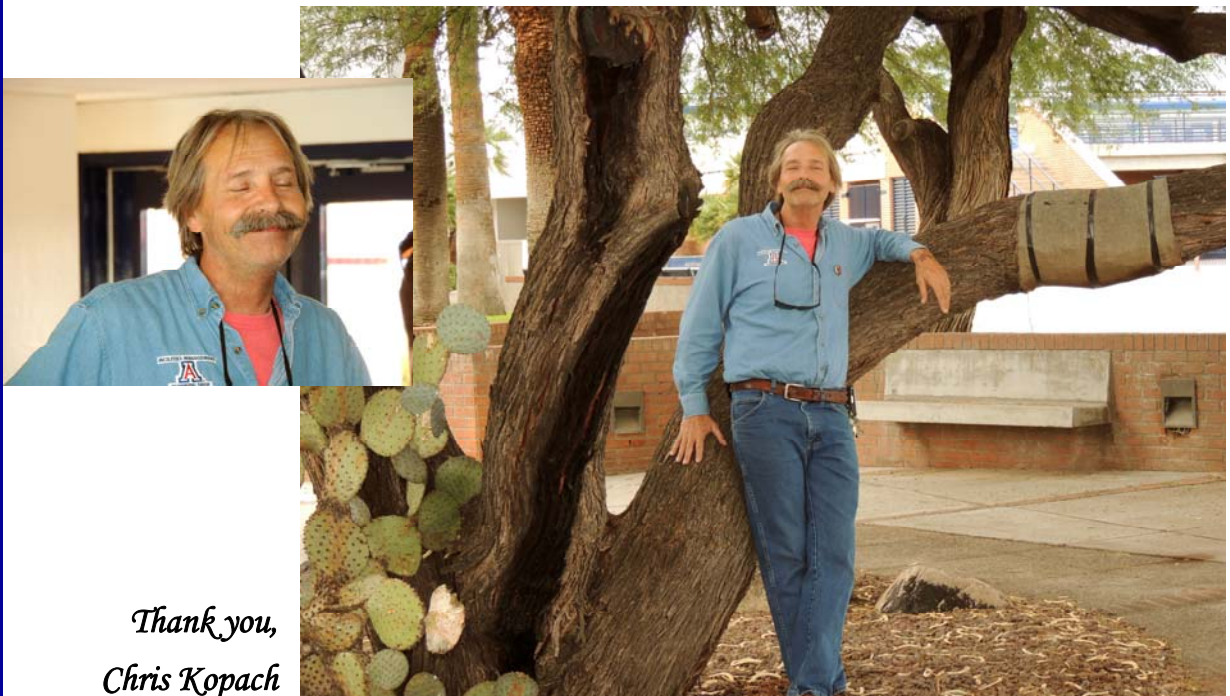
Dave Schereens recently retired from the UAFM Plumbing Shop, But what many don't know is that he actually began with UAFM in 1981 as a Groundskeeper.

Shortly after he started, a major storm damaged a number of trees on campus, including a small sapling on the west side of McKale Auditorium. His supervisor said to take it out, and replace it, but Dave said he would try to repair it and nurse it back to health. All

that summer, he gave it extra water and fertilizer, and it survived and continued to grow.

Fast-forward to 1988, when the Fred Enke Plaza was being built near the southeast corner of McKale. The architect spotted a tree on the west side of the building and said he wanted that tree to be the centerpiece of the garden. It was the very tree Dave had saved years before. It was transplanted to its present location, and as seen above, is doing quite well. If you look closely you can see Dave showing how tall it was when he saved it.

Thanks Dave, for saving that little tree, and for the many other ways you made campus and UAFM a better place!



*Thank you,
Chris Kopach*