

Oktoberfest is marking its 50th year in La Crosse...and the new Mrs. Oktoberfest has been associated with U-W-L for almost 40 of those years.

Karla Stanek came to the university as a student from Independence in 1971. Shortly after graduation, she went to work in the Career Services office on campus, and now runs that department. Unlike other royalty at the fest, who learn about the honor after being chosen, Stanek says she was surprised to be approached as a candidate for Mrs. Oktoberfest.

Karla and her husband John were guests of honor at the Mrs. Oktoberfest banquet last night, on the U-W-L campus. This year's Festmaster will be introduced tomorrow night at the Festmaster's Ball.