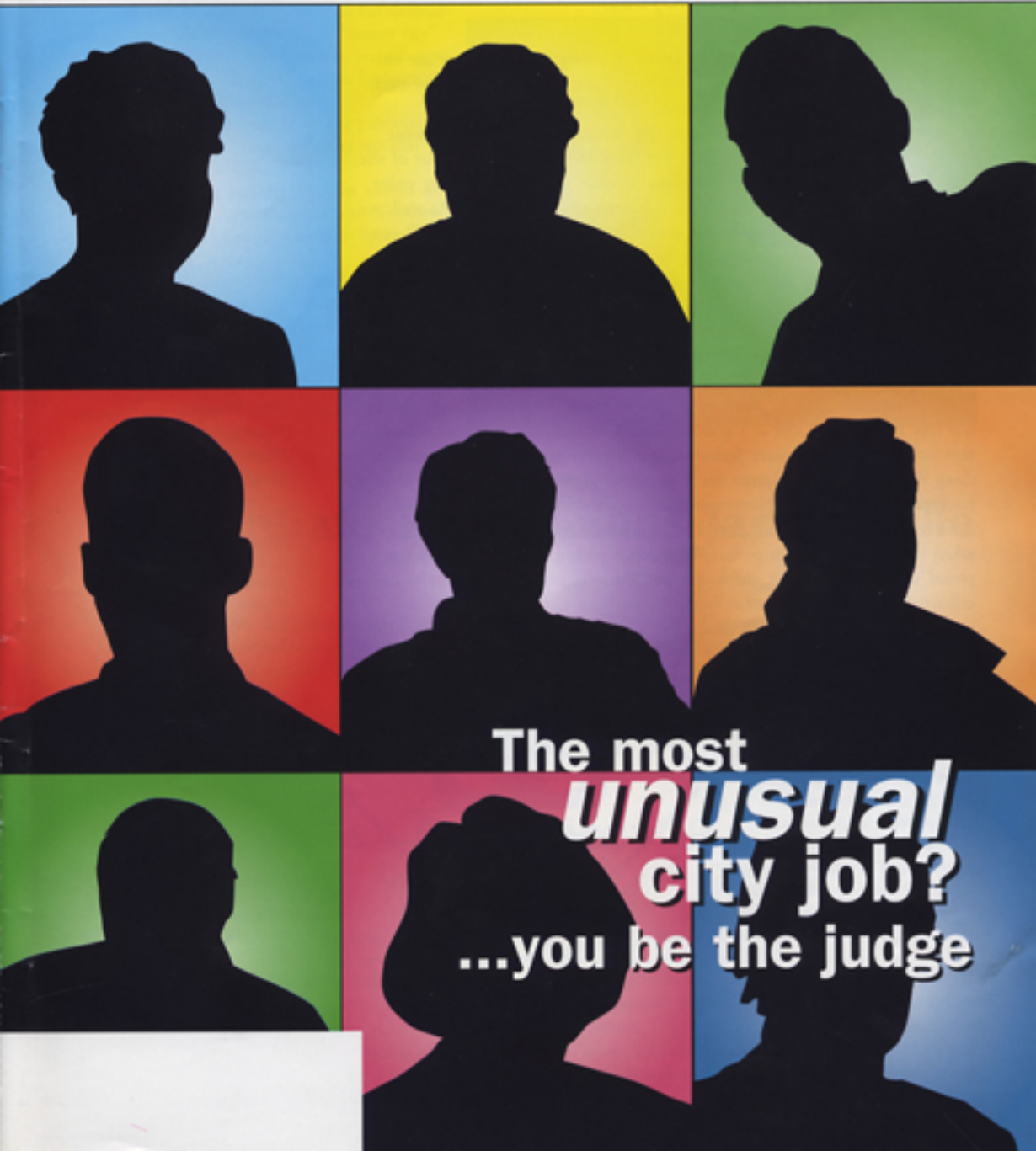



january/february 2003

consolidator

City of Jacksonville Employee Newsletter



The most
unusual
city job?
...you be the judge



Nichols, Capt. Steve

Waterways Coordinator/Dockmaster, Parks, Recreation and Entertainment

In a river city, waterways coordinator has to be a challenging job. And Capt. Steve Nichols handles "about anything to do with the city boat ramps, docks and other waterfront facilities."

Special events keep him hopping, but he also schedules facility maintenance, responds to citizen complaints, provides staff support for Waterways Commission meetings and serves as a city liaison to the St. Johns River Water Management District, State Department of Environmental Protection and innumerable other agencies.

Nichols, who grew up in land-locked Kansas and didn't see the ocean until he was 23, enjoyed a 34-year career that took him from draftsman to president of a Missouri manufacturing and construction company. Then, in 1999, he retired and moved to Jacksonville, hometown of his wife, Nancy.

"I sailed my 30-foot sailboat from Atchison, Kansas, to Jacksonville, 1,600 miles on the inland rivers and 900 miles on the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic along the east coast of Florida."

In Jacksonville, Nichols worked boat delivery and professional captain jobs before landing the city position in April 2001.

A saying of which he is fond: "My favorite memories are the ones I haven't made yet."

