

Loch Haven Brings A Touch O' The Irish To Central Florida
Chocolates And Why We Love To Love Them

Central Florida

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HEART TO HEART

**A ROMANTIC LOOK
AT THE HISTORY OF
ST. VALENTINE'S DAY**



HEARTLAND
can be found at the
Orlando Museum of Art
At Loch Haven

**THE MARRIAGE OF
LOVE AND CAREERS:
COUPLES WHO
WORK TOGETHER**



COUPLES

Continued



Arlen & Diane Chase

anthropology at the University of Central Florida. They are known and respected for their extensive knowledge and specialization in ancient Central American cultures. Their bountiful finds in a newly-discovered Mayan city in Belize are presently being shown at the Orlando Museum of Art at Loch Haven. Each has published over 25 articles apiece in professional journals and magazines on their expeditions and findings. Half of their year is spent in the classroom in Central Florida and speaking at conferences, the rest of the year is spent in the jungles of Central America.

The Chases met 11 years ago on the first day of college at the University of Pennsylvania. She was newly arrived from Long Island, New York and he was returning for his second year from Pebble Beach, California. They had both grown up the oldest child in strict, traditional families, they were born one

day apart and were both fascinated with anthropology, which was what brought them to this particular university, well known for its model program.

"I was always interested in old things, I collected rocks, shells bottles...A recruiter came to our school and gave a talk on the university's anthropology work at Hiasol. I decided then that was what I wanted to do and it came full circle when I did my doctorate dissertation on Hiasol ten years later," says Arlen.

"Arlen was upstairs in the girl's dorm casing out all the new girls and tried to get me to go to a party with him. We began talking and it wasn't long before we were dating," recalls Diane with a glimmer of fond memories in her eyes.

They "went together" throughout college and were married upon graduation on August 3, 1975, Diane's birthday. They struggled through graduate school together,

living on grants, loans, part-time jobs and plenty of coffee. "We're the only couple we know who made it through grad school together with their marriage intact," says Arlen.

From 1975 to 1982 they went on yearly extensive field trips in Central America to earn their masters and finally in '82 and '83, their Ph.D.'s. Diane went on to teach anthropology at Princeton, until they were asked to come to Central Florida and teach together at UCF.

Throughout their studies and expeditions together, they were discouraged in working as a team. Teachers and co-workers assumed the arrangement wouldn't work for a couple in a relationship.

"I can't imagine doing things a different way," says Diane. "I feel I have someone I can truly rely on to help oversee the work we do," adds Arlen, "for us it is very logical to work together."

According to Diane, the working relationship works because they are both very determined, yet they don't compete with each other, rather they support the other.

"We divide our talents as to who does what best. I do the photography, Arlen does the artist's renderings of the objects and sites. He also has a strange sense of humor that keeps things in perspective."

Arlen chimes in, "We can look at each other and not have to say anything to know what's going on with the other. I'm pigheaded, but I've learned that the one person who is usually right is Diane. If she disagrees I usually listen. I can count on her to do the things I can't do. She's very supportive. There's a lot of give and take. We have a whole system set up dividing what each of us will handle at the site, it makes everything run smoothly."

When they're not teaching or on excavations, they enjoy canoeing, tennis, computer games and an occasional bout of pinball. They have evolved from collecting ancient art to simply investigating and understanding it. Their high school hobbies of photography and drafting are now utilized in their profes-

Arlen and Diane Chase are instructors of archaeology and

sion. Although they haven't started a family as of yet, the Chases consider their students like adopted children, some of them working on the Chase's projects for several years.

So is their lifestyle rugged and exciting or just a job like any other? "Our lifestyles are vastly different in the jungles of Central America than in Central Florida. It is beautiful, exciting and romantic at the same time, we take relaxing nature walks, and the stars are so bright down there, it's a different world," says Diane. Arlen interjects "But it's not all excitement. There is the painstaking and boring work of digging, cleaning, classifying, working in the lab. Our lifestyle is tiring yet always different, like living an adventure novel."

And what about the state of the marriage?

"We both enjoy being together, we're best friends. A marriage won't work if you don't share everything," states Arlen.

Diane adds, "There is no other person I'd rather be with, nothing I don't like about him."

Arlen: "We've been married 11½ years and it still feels like 3 months. It hasn't gotten old and I don't think it ever will."

