

Summer
2006



DEPARTMENT OF FACILITIES

Facilities Quarterly

www.facilities.gatech.edu/newsletters.php

2006 Summer Picnic



Rod Hineman



Service Line

Despite the last minute change of venue, Rodd Hineman and his volunteers have pulled it through. Rodd and his team did not let the flood at the Glade dampens their spirit. They picked up their supply and went on to the festival area at Bobby Dodd stadium. The event went without a hitch. The food was good and the entertainment was plenty. We had several competitions going on at the same time, such as



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Building Services Receives APPA Effective and Innovative Practices Award for 2006

The Building Services Customer Achievement Program Award was established in June of 1997 to improve customer service, foster teamwork, create an employee incentive program, improve communications, and correct deficiencies before they become problems. Every four months the Building Services Department sends 100 customer evaluation forms out to the campus community requesting the assessment of the custodial services provided in nine specific custodial zones on campus. The winning zone receives a plaque to be displayed in their building



Tommy and Warren displaying the plaque Tech received from APPA

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Warren's Spotlight

It was great seeing everyone enjoying themselves at our annual employee picnic. Rodd Hineman and his Area I Team did a great job of putting it all together for us to enjoy. Having it in the stadium breezeway was especially nice. It kept us all in the shade from the hot Atlanta sun. Speaking of hot, what about Area V basketball team pulling off winning the basketball tournament? Kudos to Stanley, Mike and Ronnie (Jr)!

I mentioned Building Services being recognized by the Association of Higher Education Facilities Officers as the annual winner of the Effective and Innovative Practices Award in last quarter's newsletter. This issue contains the national news release of this prestigious award. Kudos again to Tommy Little and his team, especially to Stan Smith

who put together the very professional presentation package. Several members of the selection committee commented on how well it was done.

Speaking of recognition, if you get a chance to look at the 2005 Blue Print (Georgia Tech Student Annual) you will see its feature article is on our Landscape Department. The article is four pages of color photographs of landscape employees along with several paragraphs of glowing praise and appreciation for the Landscape Team's work. An exceptional tribute for there outstanding work!

The summer session is about over and the start of the fall semester will be here very soon. In addition to the normal preparations for the



school year, we will be taking on two new major facilities - Klaus and M Buildings. The Klaus Building will bring a state of the art computer science building to the campus. Its completion will also be the catalyst for turning the Architecture/Van Leer parking lot into a green space. This will be a great addition to the "green" and Campanile area. The completion of the M Building finishes out the Bio-Tech campus consisting of (IBB, ES&T and BME). The courtyard for this area will be especially a nice addition to the campus.

Enjoy the rest of your summer.

People at Work



Top Left: Mary Wilson of Building Services at HR.

Bottom Left: Carl LaShmit of Landscape Services working at President house.

Top: Mike Bentley and Greg Prater of Area 2 working on a vacuum pump at BME.



Facilities Quarterly

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Many thanks go out to all those who assisted with the publication of this newsletter. We would not have the great things to publish without your help.

Please send any contributions for the newsletter to Bill Halabi.

The newsletter is also available online
www.facilities.gatech.edu/newsletters.ph

Facilities Profile: Building Services

What are the responsibilities of Building Services Department?

We provide custodial support to the academic and administrative buildings on campus.

What is the most common service request?

It varies from water clean up to cleaning restrooms.

What is the most unusual service request?

Cleaning a refrigerator.

How many zones do you have and how many total employees on the team?

We have 9 zones and we are adding 2 more. We have a total of 255 employees.

What is the most challenging aspect of the job?

Motivating employees and recruiting qualified ones.

What is most rewarding about the job?

Being the preferred service provider to the campus.



Front Row L-R: Mandale Mitchell, Daniel Desaussure, Gwen Marks, Yolanda Bennett, Taffie Maynard, David McMULLEN

Back Row L-R: Tommy Little, Waytha Gordon, Stanley Smith, Annie Jones, Samuel Stamps, Gregory Clower

What is a typical day like for an employee?

The first priority is handling special requests then completing the scheduled tasks which are

cleaning restrooms, offices, and labs. We also have special teams that handle carpet cleaning, Terrazzo restoration, and stripping and waxing tile floors.

Electronic Research Building is Demolished for the Nano Technology Center Scheduled to open in 2008



Shop News

AREA 1

Area 1 would like to thank everyone for coming out to the Facilities Picnic. We enjoyed being the hosts this year. If you have any suggestions please pass them along to the next year's planners. We would like to thank **Malcolm, Bubba, Jeff B., and John J.** for cooking and preparing the food for the picnic. We are proud of our basketball team which placed 2nd. Well done! Nick, our student employ has enjoyed his time with us this summer. Especially the cooking "test runs" leading up to the Facilities Picnic. Once again, **Malcolm** participated in the Peachtree Road Race this year and finished as always. **Harold Childers** has stepped in as acting supervisor at Area 1. He says that it's a big job filling Leonard's shoes.

AREA 2



Bill proudly displaying his 7 pound fish

We want to welcome our three new employees, **Ron Miniaci**, plumber, **Robbie Crowe** Air Conditioning Mechanic II, and **Shante Heard** Maintenance Worker. We also want to welcome our student assistant

for the summer, **Katelyn Skinner**. We are sorry for loosing **Kenny Abercrombie**. On Bill's first deep sea fishing trip he caught a 7 pounds 24 inches black Snapper. He is more proud of it than his own kids.

AREA 3

With continued growth an orchard will provide greater fruitage. However with the increased fruitage is the need for more workers to harvest the trees. Well zone #3 has grown and it is almost harvest time with the completion of the Klaus Building due in August/September. With this in mind, there will be a need for more workers to handle the extra load. We look forward to the additional help. Unfortunately we have had a lot of loss this quarter. **William Robertson** lost three close family members and **Pete Williams** lost two members of his family as well. Our condolences go out to both men and their families. We look forward to the return of **Earl Hynton** from his serious hand injury, hopefully he will recover completely. We certainly appreciated the hard work in preparing the facilities picnic, we enjoyed the food and our men tried their best not to leave any left over.

AREA 4

Tim Jessee and wife vacationed near Los Angeles, California. They spent time in Hollywood looking for hand and footprints in the cement in front of the Chinese Theater and stars along the sidewalk. They also took a picture of the "Hollywood" sign in the hills. They spent a day at Disneyland. They visited the sets of "Dukes of Hazard" at the Warner Brothers' Studios. They

visited the location of the famous kiss between Spiderman and Mary Jane and they spotted the fire escape from the scene.



Chinese Theater

AREA 5

Congratulations to Milton Halley and his wife Zandra who are expecting their first child on Valentine's Day. (Plumber Dude) Charlie Austin's youngest son, J.W. has just finished serving six years in the Army and has returned from Iraq and now has a great job in Savannah. Charlie's middle son, Derick is in the Army and is going to Iraq for a one year assignment and when he returns he will have his Bachelor's degree in Engineering. Happy Birthday wishes to Garry Lockerman's granddaughter, Catelyn Parrish who turns two on July 14. Delora Felix and her husband Dave are going to be grandparents again for the fifth time in February. **Wanted:** Craig Fritz is looking for a girlfriend, must be attractive and wealthy and have motorcycle and boat, send pictures of the bike and boat first.

Utilities & Energy

Welcome to our new Electrical Engineer Lucian Gavriliuc who is

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Shop News

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originally from Romania. He worked at Haliburton in Houston. He will be supporting our high voltage service and assisting with projects for the zones. We are proud of Stan Fields' son Scott. He just received his Masters Degree in Information Science from the University of Washington. We are sorry to announce that Walter Giles left Tech for better opportunities. We wish him luck. We appreciate Ovida's help in coordinating our workload. Congratulation to Casey's Daughter Atousa for graduating from Georgia State University. Casey's older son Rambod is working on his residency in surgery in New York. If you don't know it by now, Casey compose and play music (very well.) Mike Leasure enjoyed a trip to New York City where he went and saw the longest running Off Broadway play. He said viewing NY City from the Empire State Building is a Wow event. Also looking down Broad Way at night is an assault on your senses. Mike is getting ready to run the "10K classic". It is running 6 miles which includes 6 hills down Highway 41.

Central Shop

Revonda, husband and 2 friends are looking forward to a week of rest and relaxation at Panama City Beach. She hasn't been there for 13 years.

Administration

We are sorry for the loss of Elvia Lam's mother who just passed away recently after a brief illness. Deborah Williams and her husband Pete spent three

days in beautiful Lakeland, Florida. July 8, 2006 she also traveled to Florence, SC where she and her brothers and sisters gave her father an 80th birthday celebration, it was great to have all of my family together for such a great occasion. Oveta's grand daughter Kayla is traveling to Myrtle Beach for the "Power Pack". It is a dance training for kids who come from all over the states for the camps. They have to be chosen through a competition.

Information Technology

Steve Sywak and Wife Marni enjoyed a great week in sunny Canada [75 deg]. Accompanying them was Shadow and Doc. Mike Sherwood is enjoying his new set of eyes. He just had the Lasik surgery done. He said he can now see Jimmy across from him [unfortunately]. If anybody looking for a cabin in Blue Ridge, Jimmy got it. Jimmy is selling his cabin. Ask him if interested.

E H & S

Amanda welcomed her first baby to this world. Maia Anne Stefanakos was born on July 8th. She was 7 lbs. 8 oz around 20 inches long. Amanda and baby are both doing well.

Building Services

On June 16th, the ladies of Zone 1 and 2 hosted a Fathers' Day Luncheon for the men in there respective zones. The men were served steaks, baked potatoes, corn on the cob, salad, beans, rolls and dessert. As you can see from there happy faces the LADIES really did it up. This is an annual occurrence and the men of these zones do like wise for the ladies in the zones.



Father's Day celebrations at Building Services



Reginald Mack, brother, Jimmy Ruth Green, daughter, Kimberly

Chekezie Okoronkwo, custodian I, passed on June 9, 2006. Chekezie was fondly called "Sonny" by all who knew him for his name was difficult for most to pronounce. Sonny succumbed to renal failure. He came to work with Building Services in April 1998. He worked in Zones 3 and 7. Sonny is survived by a wife, a son and a daughter. His remains will be sent back to his homeland of Nigeria for interment.

Accounting

Judith Butler enjoyed attending her Biannual family reunion in Milwaukee Wisconsin. Seven generations attended the reunion.

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2006 Spring Picnic



Mike and Cheryl



Isidore and JT



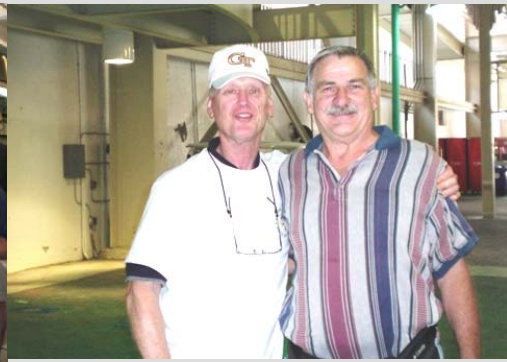
Vicky Troy



Bill Sinking it in



Bobby at the food line



Warren and R.J. Phillips

www.facilities.gatech.edu/newsletters.php



Don Elerbee



Claude, Irene, Daniel, and Marilyn



Barbara and Oveta



Tunji getting Ice cream.



Waytha, Warren, and Harold



Building Services staff

2006 Spring Picnic



Gwen Walter



Landscape Crew



Scholastica



Mike and Pat



Craig, Winfred, Don, JC, Bruce



Maurice and Willa



EH & S and Eddie



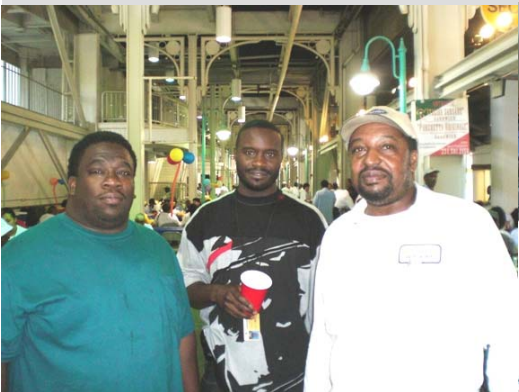
Design and Construction



Sheila, Joyce, and Eddie



The Willies



Jeff Bridges and Ronnie Zachary



Area 3 team



Sandra

Aging Chemicals Cause a Big Stink

(By Deborah Wolfe-Lopez)



We had a lot of excitement at the Institute of Paper Sciences and Technology Building (IPST) in May when a chemical release prompted the evacuation of the building. EH&S has had a lot of questions regarding that incident and its causes so, as Paul Harvey says, here's "The Rest of The Story":

A common problem in labs and shops, and one of the battles EH&S has been fighting for years here at Tech, is to get people to get rid of chemicals that they are not using. While many chemicals can be stored for years with no problems, many others can't. They become more and more dangerous, even explosive as they age.

Such was the case at IPST: an unstable chemical that was no longer being used was allowed to remain in a cabinet, long after their original owner was gone, until it finally did what chemicals of its family do when they get old- it reacted with itself. This reaction produced heat and gas which over-pressurized the bottle it was in and caused it to shatter, along with two other bottles in the cabinet, producing a foul smelling chemical "soup."

Lab staffers had been noticing an intermittent odor in the lab for over a week, but no one thought to open the cabinet of inherited chemicals to look for a cause. Finally on May 16th,

someone opened the cabinet, releasing the odor into the lab and the hall.

The second factor in this situation is the fact that the room where this incident happened does not have exhaust ventilation. The air from this room is re-circulated to the rest of the building, which meant that everyone in the building could soon be exposed to the odors coming off this unknown chemical "soup." Once Jerry Nunn, the IPST Building Manager, became aware of the incident, he turned off the air handlers

and we evacuated the building.

About 6 fire trucks, 4 news helicopters, and 3 hours later, we

got the mess cleaned up and allowed people to go back into the building. The root cause of the incident was listed as failure to manage the chemical inventory of the lab.

This type of problem is not exclusive to laboratories, however. A few weeks after the

IPST incident EH&S responded to an odor complaint from a printing and graphics operation on campus.

The operation occupies a multi room suite. The odor could only be smelled near the front door of the suite. Inside the suite, in one of the



back rooms in plain sight on a shelf, EH&S found several plastic bottles of what appeared to be photo finishing chemicals. One of the bottles had failed, producing a puddle, mostly

dried, on the floor. The operator later admitted that **the chemicals were left over from a process that she no longer does.** She also said that she thought she had gotten rid of all of the chemicals. (Did I mention that they were in plain sight?)

The lesson that we all need to take away from these incidents is to manage all chemicals in your space (new, old, and inherited). First, know what you have and what the hazards are. Second, getting rid of unwanted hazardous chemicals is as easy as calling **Ed Pozniak at 4-6224.** Third, ventilation and people moving through a

room can cause an odor to be stronger someplace other than at the point of origin. Use your eyes as well as your nose to

locate the source. Ask for assistance if you cannot identify the source of an odor or want chemicals removed.

Use your eyes as well as your nose to locate the source

manage all chemicals in your space (new, old, and inherited)

know what you have and what the hazards are

Ask for assistance if you cannot identify the source of an odor

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Basketball, Volleyball, Horse-shoe and Putt-Putt. Mike Morse, Stanley and Ronnie Zachary Jr. came in first place in basketball and Steve Scello won the Putt-Putt contest.

(Continued from page 1)

and the staff of that area is treated to a catered meal. The customers and management team benefit from cleaner buildings and improved communication between their department and the Building Services Department. Because each zone is in competition to win this award, each employee actively seeks out improvements that can be made in their buildings and solicits suggestions from customers in the building.

Chuck LaFleur Completes The Master Executives Program

On May 23, 2006, **Chuck LaFleur** the Director of Information Technology at Facilities received the



“Diamond” award. The “Diamond” is an award giving upon completion of the Masters Series Executive program at Georgia Tech. The Master Series Executive program is designed to meet the strategic institute goals by building bench strength for senior levels of the workforce, grooming a diverse group of quality internal

candidates, increase employees retention, and enhance the ability of program participants to compete for future top level jobs.



Mr. Bob Thompson presenting Chuck LaFleur with the "diamond," signifying completion of the program.

Simah Benyamin Retires

On June 28th ATDC held a retirement party for Simah. Simah has been at Georgia Tech for 21 year. She was the liaison between ATDC and Facilities. She will be missed.



Leonard Cowart Retires

Leonard has been at Tech since 1985. He decided to retire early and work closer to home down in Henry county. On Friday May 19th, 2006 Area 1 held a “ Good Bye” cook out for Leonard. Many of his coworkers and old friends came by to say good bye. As part of his exist interview, Leonard answered few questions about his 19 years at Tech.

What year did you start at Tech?

I started on June 11, 1985.

What position did you hold While at Tech?

I started as Electrician I, then Multi-Craft Foreperson.

What was Tech like back in 1980's ?

I worked all over the campus. I like the zone maintenance concept because we can give the customers more attention. You get to know the Facility Manager much better.

What is the most memorable moment at Tech?

The Vice Presidential debate between Dan Quale and Russ Pero. I worked 95.5 hours that week setting up and tearing down for the debate.

What are you planning to do after you leave Tech?

I plan to keep working. Just because I am leaving Tech it doesn't mean I am going to retire.

What advise would you give your co-workers?

Be on the job you are assigned to. Don't leave the area you are assigned to.



L-R: Harold, Bill, Phillip, Judy, Leonard, Bubba, Johnny, and Stan.



Left: Allen came back from retirement to say good bye to his Leonard.

Below: Leonard's friends saying goodbye



Heat Stress

When the body is unable to cool itself by sweating, several heat-induced illnesses such as heat stress or heat exhaustion and the more severe heat stroke can occur, and can result in death.

Factors Leading to Heat Stress

High temperature and humidity; direct sun or heat; limited air movement; physical exertion; poor physical condition; some medicines; and inadequate tolerance for hot work-places.

Symptoms of Heat Exhaustion

- Headaches, dizziness, lightheadedness or fainting.
- Weakness and moist skin.
- Mood changes such as irritability or confusion.
- Upset stomach or vomiting.

Symptoms of Heat Stroke

- Dry, hot skin with no sweating.
- Mental confusion or losing consciousness.
- Seizures or fits.

Preventing Heat Stress

- Know signs/symptoms of heat-related illnesses; monitor yourself and coworkers.

- Block out direct sun or other heat sources.
- Use cooling fans/air-conditioning; rest regularly
- Drink lots of water; about 1 cup every 15 minutes. Sports drinks are a good way to replenish the lost sodium and potassium lost through sweat.
- Wear lightweight, light colored, loose-fitting clothes.
- Avoid alcohol, caffeinated drinks, or heavy meals.

What to do for Heat-Related Illness

Call 911 (or local emergency number) at once.

While waiting for help to arrive:

- Move the worker to a cool, shaded area.
- Loosen or remove heavy clothing.
- Provide cool drinking water.
- Fan and mist the person with water.

For more information, visit www.safety.gatech.edu under the Items of Interest for Heat Stress.

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She had a great time and she went on a luncheon cruise on Lake Geneva and she toured million dollars homes.

Lock Shop

Eric Reese will be on a 5 days cruise to the Bahamas. It is a treat for his 21st birthday. HAPPY BIRTHDAY Eric! On August 11, Eric and his band will be playing at "The Warehouse" in Kennesaw. Eric will be the lead singer.

Landscape

Sorry for Donald Carnes' loss of his brother Randy. He was the UPS technician killed by the tractor trailer driver. Our condolences to Edward Banks who lost his father in June. Ali Libah and his wife welcome a new baby. Cheryl Taylor is still waiting for her new granddaughter, Kyla to get here. She is already experiencing sleepless nights, with her daughter J'Nai having contractions. Congratulations to Hyacinth Ide, he was married in Nigeria, Africa on June 17, 2006.

Congratulations to Donna Chronic for 15 years of service to Habitat for Humanity. Congratulations to William Tandongfor on the purchase of his new home. Condolence for Don Read. He just lost his brother who died from a long illness.

Staging

Those of you who have been at Tech for a long time may know Bob Disney. Bob was the staging shop foreman. He recently passed away.

Guess Who? →

Email your answer to Bill Halabi



Construction Update



Electronic Research Building is being demolished to make room for the Nano-Technology Center.



Klaus Computing Center and Parking Deck are getting the final touches. They are scheduled to open in Dec



The house at 318 10th street is scheduled for demolishing to make room for our next large building.



The house at 328 10th street is scheduled for demolishing to make room for our next large building.



The Molecular Science and Technology building is receiving its final touches. It will be ready in October 2006.



The courtyard between BME, IBB, EST, and M buildings has been landscaped in preparation for the opening of the M building.

Accolades

Area V

I am always impressed and very satisfied with the service I receive from Facilities. They are professional, courteous, polite, and always wanting to get things resolved in a timely manner. I really appreciate the service provided and individuals that provide the service. You only as good as your employees.... Keep up the OUTSTANDING service.

Faye Wheatfall/ OHR

Bill,

I just wanted to thank you and your team for the diligence afforded us in the repair of the Parking Office air conditioning system earlier this week. Although we were faced with a situation whereby our A/C unit failed (literally) in the heat of the day last Thursday, and of course just before the Memorial Day holiday weekend, you and your staff located the parts necessary for the repair on Friday and promptly obtained the parts and made the repairs on Tuesday so that our office was conditioned before

On behalf of myself and my staff,

thanks for your efficiency and for the efforts of **Larry and Frank** who worked hard Tuesday morning to make it happen.

Bob Furniss

Bill

This was actually my first time receiving **your newsletter**. I was impressed with the content and it was very well put together!! keep up the good work!

Darrel Gray

Wardlaw CVenter Manager
Office of Vice President Development

All,

The tour with Sightlines folks went great. I sometimes don't fully appreciate just how well you all do our jobs. Visits like this give me a lot to be proud of.

Thank you,
Warren

Bill

Good morning. This is just a quick note to let you know that I really appreciate how quickly **Larry, Greg, and Frank** responded to Landscape NOT having air conditioning this morning. I want to thank you for having them

come in so early, otherwise we would have roasted over here! Please thank them again for me and let them know they are appreciated.

Dear Jo Ann:

Please pass on my thank you to **Gary Fitzgibbon and Herb Hall** for installing the power box for our copier in Room 207 in A. French. I know they had to work this into a very hectic schedule. On top of that they performed the work so quietly that we didn't even know that it was being done despite the fact that they had to do some drilling through the floor.

We truly appreciate their attention and assistance.

Sincerely,

Susan Paraska

Assistant to the Vice Provost

Cindy

I appreciate the outstanding service from your department.

Thanks

Clarence Hughes

Maintenance Foreman

Support Services Department

Chehuly Art On Display In the College of Management

