Despite the soaring heat, 2009 Facilities Picnic was a success. Thanks to Bill Halabi and his committee for carrying on the event. The menu consisted of Fried Chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs and the “fixins.” We had watermelon and tasty ice cream. The employees enjoyed the various activities such as volleyball, Horseshoe or just listening to music.
The start of the school year is upon us. It is always an exciting time when the students return and fill the campus with energy. They will see some changes especially the improvements to the large classrooms in Boggs, COC, Weber and Architecture. These areas got overdue makeovers that should make a much better learning experience for the students.

We did have some unusual work going on in the Campus Recreation Center where we had a company replacing the drains in the competition and diving pools while they were filled with water. This required divers with special air and hydraulic driven tools to make the necessary cuts in the pools bottom to fit the new drains. Although unusual for us to see this, it was a piece of cake for the divers who were used to working under hundreds of feet of dirty water surrounded with ship wreckage and sea critters.

In addition to all the work activity we continue to get bad news about the economy and its impact on our budget. The Governor has mandated six furlough days for all of us between now and the end of the fiscal year. The good news is it looks like we’ll get more time off during the holiday break. This along with more budget cuts make it look like another year of tightening our belts. I have been impressed with the positive attitude everyone has taken during these tough times. This positive attitude coupled with taking a hard look at how we spend our resources has allowed us to continue to support our customers in an excellent manner.

Our summer picnic was especially welcome this year. The food was great and the games were fun. More importantly, it gave us all an opportunity to get away from our normal work routines for a period of time and to socialize. Thanks to Bill Halabi and his committee for making the event so enjoyable for us all.

As we go into the start of another school year take the time to pat yourself on the back for being an important part of one of the world’s greatest educational institution. All the wonderful things that happen at Georgia Tech depend on each one of you to help make it happen. Even though we are in the background for the big football games, graduation, the research labs, classrooms and all the other happenings here they could not happen without what we all do here in Facilities. Thanks for all you do and enjoy being part of another school year here at Georgia Tech.

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Ron Leroy Passed Away

Former Facilities employee Ron LeRoy died on June 26th, 2009, from a rare neurological disease. Ron worked six years as a Project Manager in Facilities Design and Construction. He retired on July 4th, 2008, and became sick several months after his retirement. The debilitating disease progressed rapidly leading to his untimely death.

Ron was highly respected for his project management skills and his friendly outgoing manner. He was responsible for managing the design and construction of several major building projects on campus, the most recent being the Klaus Advanced Computing Building. Ron was a true patriot. He was a retired Army Colonel and he served as a helicopter pilot in the Vietnam war.
1. How many employees are there in a zone?
Average 18

2. How many zones are there?
11

3. What area does your zone cover?
Baker, CRB, Police, 490 10th Street, 505 10th Street, Day Care, Awareness House on 10th Street and 250 14th Street

4. What are the names of your employees?

5. Who is the supervisor?
Cindy Smith

6. What would you like to say to Facilities employees?
The employees in Zone 3; know what to expect. Over the years we have maintained a high standard. I would like to thank you for going beyond the job requirement. You are always professional and courteous when you interact with our customers.

Building Services and I do appreciate the extra effort that you have shown. A great big KUDOS to all who participated.

Awards:
Customer Service Evaluation Award.
After 3 years of renovation, Bill’s house renovation project is finally complete. He is enjoying his new patio and pergolas, his “Mona Lisa”. Robbie is excited about his new grandchild in a couple of weeks. Abe’s family made it back safely after spending 6 weeks in Morocco.

Congratulations to Donnie King he welcomed grand daughter, Gracie. Congrats to Mike Picklehimer, he welcomed his great grand daughter. We want to welcome our new AC II, Dave Parks. James Harbour’s son, Christopher, has enlisted in the Marines. We wish him all the best. He starts boot camp in April 2010. David Ta, our dispatcher, went on vacation to Vietnam. Joe Meyer and wife are expecting a baby boy in September. Laurence and wife, Simone, are expecting a baby girl in January.

Welcome to Donna’s new employee Robert Demaree GKII. Thank you to Landscape Services employees, even though there aren’t flowers this year, the campus still looks GREAT! Keep up the good work!

Delora Felix’s retirement party will be Monday August 31st. Anyone wanting to share their best wishes for Delora as she leaves Tech to enjoy her retirement should come by the Central Shops office from 1pm to 4pm on Monday. Oveta, daughter and grandchildren, did a road trip for two weeks, stopped in Virginia, Maryland, DC, PA, NJ, NY and Boston. Oveta says it was great, saw many sights including the sharp shooter on the White House roof. David Goldfarb’s son Nicholas amazed the audience at his recent piano recital. Roll over Beethoven, there’s a new kid movin’ in. Scott Mussak’s daughter Elizabeth started kindergarten this year. The big event was handled well by all concerned. Elizabeth was very excited and there were no tears from Mom or daughter. Mark and Sharron’s daughter Amanda just turned 15 so watch while on the roads.

Congratulations to Pei-Chun Cheng (James) who was prompted to an A C 2 position.

Dorothy Williams started working for Buildings Services in August of 1999 under the supervision of Annie Jones and then worked her last years for Cindy Smith in Zone 3. She retired from Tech on May 29th, 2009.

We are pleased to announce Vickie Legrand and Oscar Shropshire has accepted interim appointments for supervisor(s) of zone 6 (Legrand) and Zone 5 (Shropshire).

Both employees will start their interim assignments on August 27, 2009. We will conduct a search to fill both permanent supervisor positions in the coming months.

Please join us and wishing Vickie and Oscar well in their new assignments.

We are glad Noel foot surgery went well. He will need to be off of his foot for at least 4 days and is expected to recover fully in 6 weeks. We wish him quick recover. Congratulation to Mike and Renee on the birth of their baby boy this week.

-Stanley Tolbert and his wife Crystal have a new addition to their family. She is Aaliyah Tenya Tolbert she now weighs in at nine plus pounds, however had a weight problem when she was first born.

-Bob Babone’s daughter Pauline has moved from Congo to the United States of America. Welcome to the USA!

-Nick Roper and his wife Amy are expecting their first child. The sonogram has the child’s gender determined as male. We have been offering suggestions for the names but they are still pondering.

-Eric and his wife Joy are also expecting. There is something in the water in Zone 4.

-Gary and Becky acquired a new cat last month. His name is smokey and he is a year old and loves frogs and lighting bugs.

-Zone four is getting ready for the new football season. The new scoreboard is nice. It still got the last score which was a good one 42 something. Go Jackets.

-Andy, Tony and Joann are still minding the store and handling the daily disasters quite well to keep Zone 4 the BEST!

-For now, till next time.
Electrical energy is very powerful, has many useful purposes, and can be very hazardous to humans. For example, lightening is a form of electrical energy. Each lightening strike can carry as much as a million volts at a temperature of 50,000 degrees Fahrenheit. You cannot control lightening, but you can control the energy sources you work with.

OSHA created the lockout/tagout standard to protect people from the unexpected start-up or release of stored energy.

This summer Lock-Out/Tag-Out training was provided by EHS to the Georgia Tech Facilities Office to educate employees on the importance of protecting themselves from accidental or unexpected activation of mechanical & electrical equipment and/or pressurized power sources during inspection, maintenance or construction activities.

Examples of stored energy:

- Electrical
- Hydraulic
- Pneumatic
- Pressurized liquids & gases
- Combined types

The training included a powerpoint presentation and a video on the importance of following proper procedures as well as the danger if not followed properly.

Applying and removing locks and tags can ONLY be done by authorized employees.

**NEVER remove someone else’s lock or tag.** Unless authorized, and a “Lock-out Tag-out Removal Form” has been completed.

The training was conducted by the EHS General Safety Manager, Aleece Foxx from the EHS Department. If you are interested in this course please call 404-385-0263.

Facilities Employees at Work
Summer Picnic 2009
Delora Felix Is Retiring

1. How long did you work at Tech?
I have worked at Georgia Tech for 26 years and I actually started working in the basement of the O'Keefe building.

2. What was Tech like then and now?
Tech has grown tremendous during the past 10 years compare to what it looked like in 1998 and I know the next 10 yrs will bring more changes.

3. What was the most memorable moment for you?
The most memorable moment was when I started working for Facilities. I found the most caring hard working genuine people at Facilities, and I have had the three best supervisors in my entire working life in the Facilities Department, Charlie Cromartie, Garry Lockerman and Patti Stilson.

4. What are you planning to do in your retirement?
In my retirement, I plan to help take care of my parents and enjoy the grandkids and just enjoy being a housewife.

5. Last words to your co-workers!
Last words to my co-workers, Thanks I'll miss you.
Waytha Gordon Retires

1. How long did you work at Tech?
   19.7 years

2. What was Tech like then and now?
   Tech was an infant thirsting for leadership now it has grown into adult full of ideas and knowledge.

3. What position did you hold?
   Supervisor.

4. What was the most memorable moment for you?
   When Mr. Little came to Tech to help coordinate planning for the Olympics.

5. What are you planning to do in your retirement?
   Learn how to retire and enjoy the freedom to do what I please at any given moment.

6. Last words to your co-workers!
   Teamwork is the key. Together you stand divided you fall.

Samuel Stamps Retires

1. How long did you work at Tech?
   11 years

2. What was Tech like then and now?
   Tech has grown tremendously during the past 10 years compare to what it looked like in 1998 and I know the next 10 yrs will bring more changes.

3. What position did you hold?
   I started out as Custodial 2 and was promoted to Supervisor in 1999 or 2000.

4. What was the most memorable moment for you?
   The most memorable moment for me was when Zone 6 won the first of five Customer Service award in 2001. That was a very special time for me and Zone 6.

5. What are you planning to do in your retirement?
   My plan during retirement is to spend time with my 9 year old grandson here and do some drawing, playing billiards, visiting my Mom and sister in Washington D.C. and my daughter and grandchildren in Mobile Alabama.

6. Last words to your co-workers!
   Take pride in your work, treat people the way you would like to be treated and always show respect for other people .......When we are born our slates are empty. What matters most is what we put on our slate during our lifetime. It has been a pleasure working here at Ga. Tech under Mr. Tommy Little and I wouldn’t trade Zone 6 for no other Zone.
According to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), each person in America generates, on average, 4.6 pounds of municipal solid waste each day, of which 1.5 pounds is recycled (33%), and the remaining 3.1 pounds is landfilled or incinerated. Unfortunately, much of the ‘garbage’ languishing in landfills is actually recyclable or reusable. The EPA reports that the national recycling rates for aluminum cans, plastic soft drink bottles and paper/paperboard are just 48.6%, 36.6% and 54.5%, respectively. The OSWM&R staff is conducting a pilot program to find out just how much garbage we actually generate at work when everything that is recyclable or reusable is kept out of the trash can. Starting on June 22, we brought in cloth towels from home to dry our hands on, made the switch to reusable water bottles and coffee mugs, and ate lunches with silverware that we washed and reused. We even built a worm bin and started composting our food scraps, since food is another common item found in landfills. From Monday to Friday we held on to our garbage, then weighed it and sorted it by hand at the end of the week.

During the first week of the waste audit, our nine person office generated just 3 pounds of garbage (.6 pounds per day). Our week’s worth of garbage could have fit in an ordinary grocery bag. The second week (June 29—July 2) we were even more diligent, generating 1.5 pounds of garbage during the 4-day week (0.4 pounds per day). Without disposable cups, paper plates, plastic silverware, aluminum cans, food waste and similar items, our garbage consisted mostly of napkins, candy wrappers, and vending machine snack bags.

If everyone on campus did his or her part to minimize waste, we would save on the cost of landfilling trash and could divert those resources to more productive purposes. In addition to being financially and environmentally responsible, waste minimization is consistent with Georgia Tech’s mission to contribute to a prosperous and sustainable future for the State of Georgia.
Area 1 Shop Moved Again!

Facilities Employees at Work

Warren,

The attached trend data shows the three most critical areas of the Pettit cleanroom; the photolithography areas. We made these additional measurements trying to pinpoint a problem with our photolithography processes. What the data shows is the fine job Ronnie Croy and his crew in Zone 3 are doing to keep this critical facility up and running. I applaud your efforts.

Hi Bill,
I wanted you to know that Mike Maxwell, and Larry installed the A/C in my storeroom did an outstanding job. They were professional, on time, courteous, fun to have over and kept me informed of everything that they were doing day to day. You should be proud to have them in your department.

Thank you.
Cindy Jackson

Cindy

Thank you for always sharing your newsletter with our office. I really enjoy learning about the great strides that GA Tech is making in recycling and living sustainably. We are flattered that you included our composting brochure info. We are glad you found us!

Jennifer Szabo
Program Coordinator
Georgia Department of Community Affairs
Office of Environmental Management

Heartense
I love receiving your newsletters - keep me on your mail list and tell Cindy Hi from Agnes Scott.

Janann Giles
Rusty Voakes,  
I would like to thank you also for your very hard work to get the filter box open. There was no way we could have gotten it open without you. (Without you, we would still be on the roof) We really appreciate it.

Deborah Wolfe-Lopez  
Georgia Tech Chemical Safety Manager

Please let Lillie Jackson, and Berikisu Osekre know that we are VERY pleased with the way the restrooms were cleaned at Chapin building. The walls were in pretty bad shape but they did an outstanding job making it look new.

The men from facilities did an excellent job replacing the pipe and we truly appreciate their hard work and efforts. Often our emails are requesting work to be done or requesting clean-up work. I wanted to let you know I truly appreciate your attentiveness in this matter and in all our daily needs :-) Thanks

OMED

On April 22, 2009, I was approached by Mr. Raymond Baker. Not to go into too much detail because the case is still under investigation, Mr. Baker provided me with a piece of physical evidence that he found while he performed his duties at the Skiles Building. At that time there has been a rash of burglaries in the building. Because of Mr. Baker’s diligent and keen observation, he was able to help us get a step closer in the investigation.

I commend Mr. Raymond Baker for his initiative to share information and willingness to get involved. May his actions and willingness to help the Georgia Institute of Technology Police Department be a testament to Georgia Institute of Technology’s employees. Thank you Mr. Baker. Sincerely,

Officer Alex Gutierrez

Kyla

Wow, talk about customer service. Please call me unless Val Peterson has contacted you. Thanks for asking.

Carol Hogan  
Assistant to the President

I wanted to thank Bubba, and Mr. Cook on your work to change the layout of the mailroom. This will ultimately help out computer support with their upcoming a/c unit for the server room. The job was performed in quick manor to ensure that the mailroom would be running by the next morning. Again, thank you for your help and excellent work done.

Bruce Barkley

Mark Harrah,  
Just a note to say congratulations of receiving the Community Partner Award for this quarter!

Your efforts to get the pedestrian crosswalk signs all across campus and replacing crosswalk lines in several key locations around campus have definitely helped increase the safety of the entire campus community.

Thanks for being a true partner with the Georgia Tech Police Department.

Have a great GT day!

Frank S. Stanley  
Program Coordinator  
Georgia Tech Police Department

Ladies and Gentlemen,

IBB wants to express our thanks for the extra effort extended to ensure that Georgia Tech put its best foot forward for the International Bio-Convention in Atlanta that Georgia Tech had last night to spotlight our Bio-Quad facility. IBB was also used for daytime events as well.

IBB realizes that there are limited resources available at this time and for the Facilities department to dedicate its resources to highlight this extraordinary research facility is fully realized.

Many efforts were extended from landscape services sprucing up the bio-courtyard and surrounding areas, building services keeping the IBB atrium, seminar room, and restrooms in good shape even under heavy use, and area 2 maintenance shop providing a comfortable environment with temperature monitoring and quick replacement of bad light bulbs.

Again thanks for your efforts.

IBB Facilities Manager,  
Allen Echols

Ronnie,  
Chuck Sheffield arrived on time today to work on the lights in the Optics Lab. He was very conscientious and careful not to disturb any of the equipment in his work. He did a great job for us.

I really appreciate his careful approach. I wanted you to know.

Thank you for arranging this.

Tom Gaylord