5 Ways to Keep the “Happy” in Happy Halloween

It’s a holiday loved by almost everyone!

1. **Dress in One of the Top Halloween Costumes** - Harry Potter, Lady GaGa, Mad Men, Superheroes, or the Smurfs (or Smurfettes)
2. **Satisfy Your Sweet Tooth** - Some candy trivia- Tootsie Rolls debuted in 1896, the chewy chocolate treat is still a favorite. It was the first penny candy to be individually wrapped. In addition, American’s spend $2 billion on Halloween candy each year.


4. **Choose Other Activities** - Boo at the Zoo in Atlanta or The Ghastly Dreadfuls at the Center for Puppetry Arts

5. **Be Safe** - Parents can get caught up in the fun of Halloween and forget simple safety rules. Please read the below article for safety tips and reminders.

**Halloween Safety**

**Halloween** is an exciting time of year for kids, and to help ensure they have a safe holiday, here are some tips from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP).

1. A parent or responsible adult should **always** accompany young children on their neighborhood rounds.
2. If your older children are going alone, plan and review the route that is acceptable to you. Agree on a specific time when they should return home.
3. Only go to homes with a porch light on and never enter a home or car for a treat.
4. Because pedestrian injuries are the most common injuries to children on Halloween, remind Trick-or Treaters to:
   - Stay in a group and communicate where they will be going.
   - Carry a cell phone for quick communication.
   - Remain on well-lit streets and always use the sidewalk.
   - If no sidewalk is available, walk at the far edge of the roadway facing traffic.
   - Never cut across yards or use alleys.
   - Only cross the street as a group in established crosswalks (as recognized by local custom).
   - Never cross between parked cars or out driveways.
   - Don't assume the right of way. Motorists may have trouble seeing Trick-or Treaters. Just because one car stops, doesn't mean others will!
It is really great to be part of another exciting start of a school year. The student population has increased again this year to over 20,000. Even if we didn’t know the number had increased, it seems like the campus is more crowded than in the past. There are certainly more bicycles than in the past. Our Landscape folks know this for sure because of the number of request they are getting for new bicycle racks.

What I urge all of you who drive on campus to do is, be very cautious as you drive. Students are sometimes preoccupied and not paying attention. This is only made worse when they are on a bicycle so it is important for us to be alert when we are driving on campus. The opening of the Clough Building exceeded my expectations. I know it was supposed to be a busy building and it certainly is that. The only other building on campus in its category is the Student Center. I can’t believe so many people are willing to stand in line to get coffee!

You may have noticed the T’s are not lit up at night on the Administration Building. No they have not been removed by students. We have turned them off on campus to stop the destruction of T’s on campus signage, in our buildings, and on our outside signs. This has been very frustrating for us all because we have to replace them.

It is that time of year again when we need to review our benefit selections. This is always important, but even more so this year, because there seems to be more changes. The open enrollment period is from October 25, thru November 19. During this time you will need to go online and make any changes to your benefit selections. To help you understand what your options are, the Benefits folks should be coming to your shop to go over the various benefit options. In addition, the benefits fair will again be held in the Student Center Ballroom on November 3rd, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Our football team is really doing great this year. We are 6 – 0 and ranked number 12 nationally as I write this article. This is really great but our academic rankings are even more impressive. Georgia Tech is ranked #7 among public universities nationally. The Industrial Engineering undergraduate is #1 and has been for several years. We are all a part of a very well regarded institution and each of you has a right to be proud of your contributions to a reputation of excellence this Institute has earned. Go Jackets!

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**Campus Safety Tips**

The Georgia Tech Police Department strives to keep our campus a safe place. Below are a few Safety Tips from their website on staying safe.

**Ways to Protect Yourself:**
- Program 404-894-2500 (Georgia Tech Police) into your cell phone
- Do not talk to strangers
- Whistle on key chain
- Pepper Spray

**Robbery Prevention:**
- Walk in areas with lots of light.
- Walk with a friend or group.
- If you are being followed, walk in the other direction.
- Know Where Emergency Telephones are located.
- Do not wear a lot of jewelry or carry a lot of money.
- Call the police if you see something or someone suspicious.

**Safety Escorts:** Stingerette services runs throughout the night.
Call 404-894-9649
1. How many employees are there in your area? We have 26 employees in Area 2.

2. What is the function of your Team? The area is responsible for repair, maintenance, and preventative maintenance inside the buildings of one fifth of the campus. On a typical day, we have employees performing preventative maintenance on A/C systems in rooms and labs and fume hoods in labs, replacing lights and ballast, adding or repairing plumbing fixtures, adding or repairing electric circuits, performing minor build outs, painting and meeting our customers varied needs.

3. What are the names of your employees? The names of Area 2 employees are Annette, Ato, Billy, Chris, Chuck, Frank, Freeman, Greg P, Greg R, Juan, Larry, Lee, Maurice, Maxwell, Peppe, Richard, Ricardo, Rusty, Scotty, Sylvester, Tunji, Will and Wy.

4. Who is the manager? The manager is Bill, an employee of GA Tech for 24 years - 28 years including his days as a student.

5. Who is the supervisor? The supervisor is Ronnie, who has been with GA Tech for over 30 years.

6. What would you like to say to Facilities’ employees? Area 2 strives to do the best job for our customers. We are proud to be a small part of the team here at GA Tech. We aim to support our researchers, students and staff, in achieving their mission of keeping GA Tech among the top universities in the world.
News

Area 1
Sandra’s daughter, Deven (pictured above left), who is a Senior at North Atlanta High won Ms. North Atlanta High 1st attendant for 2011. She has also been accepted into Clark Atlanta for the dual enrollment program for high school students in the Mass Communication/Journalism program. Laura left facilities moving away to Florida for another career opportunity. Her last day was Sept 30. Sam and his wife (Peggy) just returned from a wonderful vacation in sunny Mexico.

Area 2
Area 2 welcomes new employee, Ato as a temporary Maintenance I worker. Annette and her husband, Mark, will celebrate their 28 years of marriage with a trip to San Francisco this month! On a more serious note, we said goodbye to one of our own, Mike Bentley, who passed away on September 13. He is greatly missed by all! Also, Congratulations to Sly and his wife on the birth of their first baby, Danielle.

Area 3
Onkar will be spending Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday with all his family in India. Mike will be running a 26 mile Marathon on October 30th. Kevin is expecting his first baby in March. Laurence has a 3 month old baby. Jedd, Chad, and Korey are new permanent employees. Mike rode with his brothers on the motorcycle for a week through the mountain trails.

Area 4
Welcomes new employees Anthony Stephens whose father, Willy, retired last year from GA Tech and Adam Gaddis whose father works at the Alumni Association and his brother works in grounds. Also, we are reorganizing all shop functions out of the mechanical shop. This project will make our area more organized and functional.

Area 5
Look at page 7 of this newsletter to find the luckiest employee!

Recycling
Karl has three boys that have birthdays this month. Daniel turned 5 on October 4, Karlos will turn 4 on October 23 and Karl will turn 2 on October 26. Karl will also be celebrating his 2nd year wedding anniversary and he and his family will be going on a Carnival cruise to Nassau Bahamas from October 28 to November 4. Congrats to Karl! Kristopher “Bud” will be celebrating his 25th birthday on October 14. Heart is a grandmother again! After 4 grandsons we now have a girl! Jamahri Monique. Jamahri was born on September 28 at Northside Hospital and she weighed 15.7 ounces. She’s getting closer to 2 lbs now and she’s doing well, so is the mom Shawn.

FACILITIES QUARTERLY
Welcome to new employees Michael, Steam Mechanic, and Justin, Maintenance Worker. Steve retired from the Holland Power Plant. Reggie had a baby girl in August.

Condolences go to Rick for the passing of his wife, Judy, in September.

Kelly is looking forward to retiring in April of 2012 with 23 years of service!

Kyla was promoted to Administrative Manager / Fleet Coordinator. Congratulations to Kyla!

Congratulations to Yolanda on coming in first place in the desert contest at the chili cook off. She had the best Turtle Cheesecake.

Reuben Smith was an employee in Building Services. He passed away on July 20, 2011.

Annette brought home a puppy, Lucy, from Atlanta Rescue.

Sophia, daughter of Fredrico, in Utilities and Energy getting ready for her first Halloween dressed as the prettiest cupcake ever!

A note from Brad,
I have enjoyed working with all of you these many years. The good part is that I will continue to work with most of you in my new position as Director of Facilities, College of Engineering.
Freeman and Stanley’s family decided to have a Biggest Loser Contest. The idea came from their Aunt Janet when she started her own diet months before. She lost 100 pounds, felt great, and wanted to see her family get healthy and fit.

The contest was over a three month period that began on July 14th and ended on September 18th. Every two weeks they had a “Challenge”- relay race, jumping jacks, curls, squats, bike riding and jogging. Also, at this time, they had a “Weigh in.” Freeman said, “Every pound you gained, cost you a dollar.” The cost to began the contest was $20 and the jackpot of $360 went to the winner, Stanley, who lost 63.4 pounds. Freeman lost 25 pounds.

The contest started over on September 19th for another 3 month period. Good luck to Stanley- Freeman opted out of the second round!

No easy fixes- sorry! The secret to their success is exercising at least 30 minutes every day and diet.

Georgia Tech Facilities Department recently migrated to a new email server, Zimbra. “The IT department in Facilities is about half way through this migration with the other half scheduled to be completed the weekend of October 22”, said Charles “Chuck” LaFleur, Director of Information Technology for the department.

The biggest impact of the migration to the new email server, Zimbra, for employees in Facilities is the way they view their email. Employees need to view their email by going to mygatech.edu and use their TechWorks ID and Password to log on.

One of the best features will be coming with the next upgrade. The Self-Restore deleted items feature will allow you to restore deleted emails for up to fourteen days!

All of us in Facilities appreciate the long hours and hard work the IT department is putting in to help us stay updated in the latest new technology. Thanks to all of you!
1. How Long have you been at Tech?
I have worked at Georgia Tech for 35 years, 1 month, and 2 weeks.

2. What positions did you hold while at Tech?
Boiler operator, acting Superintendent while Bob Labreque was gone, and Lead Man for the past 25 years.

3. What are you planning to do with your time?
I plan to take it as it comes.

4. What was the most memorable moment while at Tech?
The first and last.

5. Do you have any last words to your Facilities family?
It is a good place to work and I really enjoyed it. Jobs as good as this one are hard to come by these days.

6. How many times did you hear the whistle blow when Tech scored at Football?
Hundreds of times.

Charlie in Area 5 is a happy man! He gets a new roof for his house. This good fortune comes as a result of his wife, Peggy, winning the $10,000 “Cash Blast” scratch off! He is pictured above with the winning ticket. Congratulations Charlie!

...More Halloween Fun

Pictured below in his first Halloween Costume is Alexander, son of Dianna, in U&M. He is also sporting an injury over his left eye from his very first fall.
Mike Bentley was an employee of Georgia Tech who began working here in February of 1993 when hired by Ronnie Zachary in the Central A/C Shop. Back then, the campus wasn’t divided into zones- they covered all the buildings on campus. When the campus was divided into Zones and Areas, Mike began working in Area 4. He then transferred to Area 2 and worked here the majority of his eighteen years at Tech. After a long battle with cancer, Mike left this world on September 12, 2011.

He wrote his parting words to Family and Friends -

"I have passed away on this beautiful day thinking of my Family and Friends. I pray that I left this world a little better than how I found it and those I’ve helped will use their time to do the same. Now if you're reading this I would like for you to say this little prayer with me aloud or quietly.

"God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; the courage to change the things I can and the wisdom to know the difference.” - Mike

PeachCare for Kids®

The Rules Have Changed for State Employees!

Your children may now be eligible for PeachCare for Kids®

Eligibility for PeachCare for Kids® must be determined annually. A child may be eligible if they are:

- Georgia Resident
- Under age 19
- A U.S. citizen or an eligible immigrant
- Not covered by or eligible for Medicaid
- Not a resident in an institution
- Within the income ranges established for participation
- Not covered by other group health insurance*

* If a child has group health insurance that is voluntarily dropped, there is usually a six month waiting period before that child can be eligible for PeachCare for Kids. **However, since dependents of state employees have been excluded from participating in PeachCare for Kids since inception, this six-month waiting period will be waived for these children for a limited time.**

* A family of three can make around $43,500 and qualify; a family of four can make around $52,500.

Beginning October 1, 2011, state employees can apply for PeachCare for Kids! If your child is eligible for PeachCare for Kids®, you will be notified and your child’s State Health Benefit Plan (SHBP) coverage must be cancelled. For more information about for PeachCare for Kids, visit www.peachcare.org or call 1-877-GA-PEACH (427-3224).
Washing hands with soap and water is the best way to reduce the number of germs on them. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers can quickly reduce the number of germs on hands in some situations, but sanitizers do not eliminate all types of germs.

Hand sanitizers are not effective when hands are visibly dirty.

Washing Hands Helps Tackle Flu

Keeping your hands clean is one of the best ways to prevent the spread of infection and illness. Hand washing is easy to do and it’s one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of many types of infection and illness. Clean hands can stop germs from spreading from one person to another and throughout an entire community.

Wash Your Hands: The Right Way

When should you wash your hands?

- Before, during, and after preparing food
- Before eating food
- After using the toilet
- After changing diapers or cleaning up a child who has used the toilet
- Before and after caring for someone who is sick
- After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
- After touching an animal or animal waste
- After touching garbage
- Before and after treating a cut or wound

What is the right way to wash your hands?

- Wet your hands with clean running water (warm or cold) and apply soap.
- Rub your hands together to make a lather and scrub them well; be sure to scrub the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.
- Continue rubbing your hands for at least 20 seconds.
- Rinse your hands well under running water.
- Dry your hands using a clean towel or air dry.

For more information on hand washing, please visit CDC’s website: Handwashing: Clean Hands Save Lives Website.
People at Work

Pictured above - Doug, Utilities Analyst

Pictured above (L - R) - Mike and Bill.

Pictured above Kevin, Area 3 A/C Mechanic

Pictured above - Judy, Building Services

Pictured above - Kelly (Lockshop)

Pictured above - Sonia (Area 5)
Building Services’ New Ionizer

Building Services recently replaced the ionizer by Activeion. The new design has sustainability, is lighter than the previous one, can stand on its base and kills 99.9% of all germs, including the MRSA virus. Below is the picture of the Activeion representatives during a training session on the new device.

Sausage Casserole

The fall season is approaching, and with it a change in the foods we enjoy with the cooler temperatures. Below is one of Kyla’s favorite recipes for the season.

Ingredients-
- 1 lb. cooked sausage
- 1 med. onion chopped and sautéed
- 1 can sweet yellow corn
- 2 can tomato soup
- 1 sleeve crushed Ritz crackers

First preheat your oven to 400 degrees. Next mix the onion, sausage, corn and tomato soup together and put into a oven safe casserole dish. Top with the crackers and bake for approximately 30 minutes or until it is bubbling at the sides.

CANJA

(THICK CHICKEN RICE SOUP)

It is a special African soup for cold days or any family gathering. Provided by Sonia, Cape Verde Island (West Coast of Africa)

1/2 whole chicken, cut up
2 medium onions, chopped
4 cloves garlic, minced
3-4 chicken bouillon cubes
1 Cup uncooked white rice
(Jasmine) (may substitute long-grain)
Choice of vegetable (broccoli, carrots, mixed vegetables etc) Optional

Saute onions and garlic in oil. Next, add chicken pieces, bouillon cubes and a sufficient amount of water. After bringing to a boil, add rice and stir occasionally. Simmer approximately 1 hr adding more water as needed, until desired consistency. Add vegetables and let cook about 10 minutes or until desired.
Area 1

Hi Rodd,

We got past the 6th and it was a great success. I would like to thank you and your team for the collective effort. The grounds and the building looked and performed perfectly. I know you guys focused much effort on the MaRC and the hard work is appreciated. Please let your team know our appreciation.

Thanks,

Steven Sheffield
Manufacturing Research Center

Area 2

A special thanks to Greg Roche for his excellent timing and corrective action on this request.

Clarence Hughes
Support Services
GTRI

Hi Tommy,

I wanted to write to tell you how thankful I am for Brandon Ford and his team of men: Jerrick; Alfonso (Lo); and D.J. They helped out tremendously, as they always do, at Summer Commencement and most recently when Brandon helped me pick-up our new President’s Podium. Your employees have always gone above and beyond to assist me in our event planning.

Sincerely,

Laura Pusateri
Communications & Marketing

Warren,

I wanted to let you know that your team at Area 1 really helped us out again. We had a model plane about 8 feet by 8 feet and weighs about 75 lbs. that our professor wanted to have hung in the Love building. This plane was part of a project that involved GTRI, Ga Tech, Boeing and NASA. Your team stepped up and made sure this plane was hung from the ceiling of the Love building last week while we had a Boeing visitor on-site.

They really went above and beyond their normal job duties to take care of this project. I want to thank you, Rodd and his whole team that have worked to make sure this went off without a hitch.

You have a great group of people working for you.

Cary Ogletree
Project Manager of Facilities

Dear Tommy,

I want to thank Gwen, Be, Celestine and Duke for going out of their way to help make all the transitions happen. They were called on countless times through the months of June, July and August as we had so many changes in staffing and furniture. Basically, they had to clean offices from top to bottom on a very tight schedule. Also, Be has been sighted going above and beyond, as she always has, to make sure that some strange tasks were completed. She has even been the one on her hands and knees to make sure the baseboards were brought back to snuff.

I just want to make sure you guys know how grateful we are to have such a conscientious team.

Rudy

Hi Mr. Little,

Recently, I asked Nicholas Watkins if he could clean my office floor. My office looks great, and I am especially thankful that he was able to clean the floor. I just want to commend him and show appreciation for a job well done.

Thanks,

Christina Fernandez Research Group

Warren and Sonny,

I wanted to thank you both for helping me with my bike lock troubles this morning.

I spoke with a number of people unsuccessfully before contacting you all through Johann Weber. You were very quick and courteous to respond to my problem, which I truly appreciate it.

Thanks again,

Ryan
Graduate Student
City and Regional Planning