This year Chuck Wagon Challenge (chili Cook Off) was a great success. Thanks to David Tate and all the volunteers for fun event Yummy food. The first place winner was Building Services Zone 6. Thanks to Robin Jernigan, Mattie Hurst, and Britonia for preparing the winning chili. Building Service Zone 12 came in second place. The team was headed by Turquila Jewell, Debaha Miller, and Lesha Wal-

(Continued on page 9)
We are getting close to the end of another school year. Graduation and move out are busy times for the Institute and for many of us. Our Landscape folks make sure Campus grounds look their best and the Staging crew spends long hours making sure the graduation stage, chairs, podium, etc. are all setup perfectly. This is another major Institute event we help make possible.

Along with graduation comes move out. The Campus is packed with cars and trucks carrying belongings and students home for a well earned summer rest. Whatever is left behind, our Recycling and Landscape folks make sure it is put to its best use. Very little of what appears to be trash and junk goes to the landfill.

Tech Beautification Day is another Campus event involving hundreds of students planting and placing pine straw throughout the Campus. This event not only makes the Campus grounds look better but also gives the students a better appreciation for what it takes to keep the Campus looking so great. Hopefully it will also help make them encourage their friends to respect our grounds. Again this great event could not happen without the hard work of Hyacinth Ide and his Landscape Team. In fact, I think we’d all appreciate having landscape professionals do all the preparatory work.

Again this year, our chili cook-off was a huge success. The location in the stadium worked out extremely well. All the winners are featured in this quarter’s newsletter, but I have to tell you Building Services (Zones 6 and 12) and Area 3 chili were a big hit with the judges. I think this may have been the first time a team’s chili was in first place on all of the judges’ scorecards. A lot of effort goes into making our events so much fun for all of us and we have David Tate and his committee members to thank for this year’s outstanding event.

Our Landscape and Waste Management Departments will be undergoing some big changes this summer. The big storage yard at the corner of Peachtree Place and Atlantic will be relocated to the Woodruff parking lot on the west side of Campus. In addition to providing a place for vehicles and equipment parking, this area is also where many of you go to dispose of metal, wood, etc. in the large containers. This storage is being moved to make way for the EBB Building to start construction this summer.

The relocation of the storage yard is the first step in relocating our Landscape, Waste Management, and Motor Pool to a new location. Location and timing have not been finalized yet, but the Campus Master Plan calls for a small lake to be located where our Landscape and Waste Management compounds are now located.

Looks like we have fast forwarded into summer from a very mild winter which is a little ahead of normal. Before long the Campus will go into quiet mode when the students leave for vacation and we take the opportunity to prepare the Campus facilities and grounds for next fall.

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Diversity in Facilities Management

If you take a look 30 or 40 years back, Atlanta and the United States did not have as many international citizens as they have today. The same is true at Facilities Management Department. I would like to share the information about what countries some of our employees come from. They are listed not in any particular order:

- India
- Poland
- Jamaica
- Vietnam
- Dominica
- Mexico
- China
- Persia
- Syria
- Nigeria
- US Virgin Islands
- Lebanon
- Togo
- Congo
- Colombia
- Dominican Republic
- Chinese by way of Korea
- Cape Verde Islands (Africa)
- Canada
- El Salvador
- Ghana
- Sudan
- Ivory Coast
- Cameroon
- Liberia
- Panama
- Bulgaria
- and of course United States of America.

Bill Halabi
1. **How many employees are there in Area 4?**

There are currently 21 employees in Area 4.

2. **What is the function of your team?**

Our function is to provide maintenance, preventative maintenance, and repair services for building systems thereby enabling an environment conducive to teaching, learning, and administrative functions.

3. **What are the names of your employees?**

Our employees are:

- David Tate
- Tony Blalock
- Christena Hammett
- James Strickland
- Don Brookhire
- Ryan Knusen
- Shawn Moore
- Robbie Rice
- Bob Babone
- Scott Bates
- Nicholas Roper
- Brandon Hunter
- Philip Walls
- Jonathan Graham
- Stanley Tolbert
- Simfeiley Tchedou
- Kpouso Karka
- Kenneth McCullough
- Gerald Hunter
- Adam Gaddis
- And our newest employee: Alvin Malcolm

4. **Who is the Manager and what can you tell us about him?**

David Tate is the manager of Area 4. He started at Georgia Tech just over a year ago. He is a graduate of the College of Architecture and has been a facilities manager for both Emory University and the U.S. Navy.

5. **Who is the supervisor and what can you tell us about him?**

Tony Blalock is the supervisor. Tony began working at Tech in the paint shop in 1986. He became the Area 4 supervisor in 2001 and served as the interim manager of Area 4 from July, 2009 to January, 2011. When not at Tech, Tony enjoys spending time with his three grandsons.

6. **What would you like to say to the Facilities Management employees**

Safety, customer service, and a positive attitude are our priorities.
Area 1
Sandra's daughter (Deven) will be graduating on May 22nd 2012, with honors from North Atlanta High School. She has been accepted to Tuft University, Oberlin College, Ga State University, Clark Atlanta University, Valdosta State University, and Savannah State University. She is actually waiting to hear from University of Alabama (Roll Tide). Sandra is a very proud mommy.
Welcome to our new employee Terrance Bowens, our new Maintenance Worker who will be handling the Kessler Fountain in our area.

Administrations
Oveta Perry is a newly wed. Her name is now Oveta Leslie, but she will continue to use Oveta Perry while employed at GT. Congratulations Oveta!

Area 5
Area 5 would like to welcome 3 new Technicians
Douglas Moore (Doug) A/C I
Richard Davidson A/C I
George Smith/Randy Maintenance
We would like to wish a Very Happy Birthday to:
Ronald Neal 01/19
Joseph Meyer 01/24
Richard Davidson 02/15
Jeffery Bridges 03/16
Charlie Austin 04/2
Congratulations to Sonia Rosa's oldest daughter Jasmine Da Rosa! Jasmine will be graduating from South Gwinnett High School in May Class of 2012 at 17 yrs old. Jasmine played a shooting Guard and Point Guard for the Comets.
Jeremy Mitchel would like to thank Curtis Burnett and Randy Smith for a job well done in Providing power from the gate bell to the front door and installing a front door bell for the Structure Lab.

Area 4
The last three months have been filled with highs and lows for Area 4. We lost team member Anthony Stephens on March 11th. Anthony died due to complications resulting from chemotherapy. The renovation of our shop space has been delayed due to some acoustical problems but now is moving forward again. Ryan Knudsen and his wife are expecting their first child as are Adam Gaddis and his wife. Ryan will receive his master’s degree in facilities management at the end of this semester.

Landscape
Congratulations to Kyla Reese. She and her husband Eric are now the proud parents of 2 healthy boys. Will is big brother to Zakkary Scott, born January 28. He weighed 7 lb 2 oz and he was 21 inches long. Congratulations!
Brandon Garner (GKII) and his wife are the proud parents of a baby girl Jasa Brandon( born 3-16, 2012 and weighed at 7.2 oz she was 19 inches long.
Welcome to our new employees:
Frank Ivancic - Sports Turf Tech.
Quentin Holden - Tree Surgeon
Andrew Spearman - GKI
Alex Smith - GKIII
(Continued on page 9)
1. How long did you work at Tech?
I have been a Georgia Tech employee for 30 Great Years.

2. What positions did you hold while at Tech?
I came to Tech as a custodial 1, was promoted to a Custodial II position which was later reclassified into a Custodial III. I have also acted as interim supervisor when there was need.

3. What are you planning to do with your time?
I plan to travel and to spend time with my grandson.

4. What was the most memorable moment while at Tech?
Without a doubt it was the 1996 Olympic Games.

5. Do you have a last word to your Facilities Management Family?
I really have enjoyed working for all of the people who have made up the different Facilities/Building Services management teams over the past 30 years. I Especially appreciated having worked under the current Management team which includes Mr. Page, Mr. Little, Ms. Maynard, Mr. Dessasure, and Willa.

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1. How long did you work at Tech?
I have worked at tech for 13 years. Before here, I was at Atlantic Steel for 30 years and before that I was in Vietnam. I was in the 173rd Airborn Infantry.

2. What positions did you hold while at Tech?
I was a Plumber.

3. What are you planning to do with your time?
I plan to hunt, fish, and run and I anything I want to.

4. What was the most memorable moment while at Tech?
Working with the people and all the friends I made.

5. Do you have a last word to your Facilities Management Family?
I enjoyed playing with everybody. This is a good place to make friends.
Chuck Wagon Chili Challenge
27th Annual Facilities Chili Cook–Off

2nd Place

1st Place

3rd Place

1st Place

1st Place

1st Place
It was a huge success this year with so many volunteers that we were moving groups to additional overflow areas. We spread 3000 bales of pine straw, planted 8 trees, planted 251 shrubs and 500 perennials. We also installed 3500 square feet of sod and 45 cubic yards of mulch. We had 110 football players, basketball players and cheerleaders as well as many members of the fraternities and sororities. The weather was perfect and the campus was alive with activity that day as there also was an Auto Show, a track meet, a road race and a baseball game. President Peterson stressed how important Tech Beautification Day was because it allowed the students the chance to give back to the Georgia Tech community.
Issues at Hand

Gas Prices
Back in 2008 the gas prices “skyrocketed” to $4.00 a gallon. It is going in that direction again. Today it is about $4.00 a gallon. In 2008 many of Facilities Management employees modified how they commute to work. Some started carpooling, others used public transportations and few used bicycles. Our Custodian Marvin Brewer, who works in the Clough Commons rides his bike to work everyday unless it is raining. He says it keeps him in shape and cuts down on expenses. Way to go Mr. Brewer.

(Continued from page 4)

Peachtree Race. While training for the race, he lost 47 pounds. While losing all this weight, a miraculous event has occurred. The gray seems to have disappeared from his hair. We think that he might have had a little help from Just for Men hair color.

Area 2
Lee is excited about his upcoming trip to Africa. He will be visiting Kenya and South Africa and the group is scheduled to meet with Desmond Tutu. Area 2 would like to welcome Allen our Maintenance Worker.

Building Services
Qwanisha Banks is the granddaughter of Chalette Mitchell and is a junior at Fayetteville High School In Fayetteville Georgia. Love that RED!!!

(Continued from page 1)

Congratulations to the following employees for having completed many years of service at Tech.

25 years
Halabi, Bill Area Maint. Manager
Thompson, Donald Storeroom foreperson
Craft, Darrel Custodian I
Hayes, Amos Custodian III
Wilson, Mary Custodian I

10 Years
Austin, Charles Plumber I
Babone, Bob A/C I
Jones, Derrick Staging Specialist II
Jones, Melvin Maintenance Worker
Prater, Gregory A/C Mechanic III
Rodgers, Timothy Maintenance Worker II
Tedder, Franklin A/C Mechanic I
Williams, Albert A/C Mechanic II

Brown, Tokiki Custodian I
Brown, Valarie Custodian I
Ferguson, Barbara Custodian I
Graves, Iesha Custodian I
Hamp, Harvey Custodian I
Lewis, Catherine Custodian I
Mason, Maxine Custodian I
Norwood, Brenda Custodian I
Oglivie, Roberto Custodian I
Salgado, Maria Custodian I
Stephens, Sheila Custodian I
Stinson, Courtney Custodian I
Thomas, Cynthia Custodian I
Turner, Marion Custodian I
West, Vernicer Custodian I
Johnston, Bruce Custodian I
Reynolds, J Custodian I

Arch Flash Protection Gear which will be used by our Electricians for their protection (Modeled by Ozzaer Maxwell).
Most of us think of edibles in the landscape as those wonderful vegetables that come out of our garden every year. Just the thought of red juicy tomatoes, crisp cucumbers, and spicy peppers makes me long for summer. Believe it or not, if you do a little investigating, you can find great plants that not only work in your landscape but also provide a bountiful harvest.

Fruit trees seem like the first choice but may not be the best option for the home landscape. Most fruit trees require extensive spraying and pruning in order to control insects and disease. Some of the unusual fruits are generally easier to manage and still give you a nice tree or shrub with attractive flowers. Some examples are persimmons, paw paws, quince and of course figs. They all are attractive, fruit bearing and easy to cultivate.

For all round usefulness, blueberries are my favorites. Blueberries provide multi-seasonal appeal. Foliage color can range from greenish blue in the summer to a bright red or yellow in the fall. An abundance of flowers in the spring insures a plentiful crop of berries in early summer. What about a carpet of strawberry plants for a groundcover? Dainty little white flowers in the spring with bright red berries to follow. In fall and winter, they offer an evergreen cover. Thorn-less blackberries work well on the edge of a naturalized area. But remember to give them lots of space because they can become invasive.

An entire article could be devoted to herbs and their ornamental use. For centuries, herbs have been used in specialty gardens and containers. Why not mix them in with your home landscape. Rosemary makes a fragrant and attractive shrub. Parsley, with its deep green color, works well as a border plant. Chives, fennel and dill make great specimen plants. Basil comes in a variety of sizes, shapes and colors. A couple of my favorites are “Purple Ruffles” and “Spicy Globe” basil. I always consider it a bargain when a plant is attractive, aromatic, edible and easy to grow.

One of my favorites tricks is to incorporate vegetables into my regular landscape and flowerbed. I love to see the look of surprise on someone’s face when they are admiring a flower and realize there is a pocket of lettuce growing next to it. There are fantastic new varieties that come in a wide array of shapes and colors. “Red Sails”, “Freckles”, and “Oakleaf” are all varieties of lettuce that have this ornamental appeal. A lot of work has also gone into breeding ornamental peppers that are both appealing and edible. A new variety called “Chilly Chili” has beautiful showy yellow, orange and red peppers that are clustered near the top of the plant.

As you can see, edibles should not just be relegated to your vegetable garden. With a little creativity, all kinds of edible plants can be included in your landscape. They can provide attractive foliage, nice flowers and an edible reward in the end. Experiment and have some fun!
Landscape Department Receives 2011 Tree Campus USA Recognition

Dear Hyacinth,

I write to congratulate Georgia Tech for achieving recognition as a 2011 Tree Campus USA®. Tree Campus USA, a national program launched in 2008 by the Arbor Day Foundation and Toyota Motor North America, Inc., honors colleges and universities and their leaders for promoting healthy trees and engaging students and staff in the spirit of conservation.

To obtain this distinction, Georgia Tech has met the five core standards for sustainable campus forestry required by Tree Campus USA, including establishment of a tree advisory committee, evidence of a campus tree-care plan, dedicated annual expenditures for its campus tree program, an Arbor Day observance and the sponsorship of student service-learning projects. Your entire campus community should be proud of this sustained commitment to environmental stewardship.

Again, congratulations. Your diligence in improving the environment and quality of life at Georgia Tech contributes to a healthier, more sustainable world for us all.

Sincerely,

Mary Widhelm, Program Manager
Arbor Day Foundation

Richard Murphy Retires March 30, 2012

Richard Murphy retired March 30, 2012 after working at Georgia Tech in Building Services for seventeen years. Richard began working at Tech on the graveyard shift and came to the morning shift when Building Services was restructured in September of 1997. Richard last assignment was in Rich Computer, which he called his second home. Richard stated he will definitely miss his family here at Tech but he feels it is time to go and he hopes everyone will have the same opportunity he had.

When The Whistle Blows

Donald Hamilton, zone 12 supervisor shown here lighting the candle in memory of Latrice Williams during the “When the Whistle Blows” ceremony. This year the Whistle blew for three employees from Facilities. The employees were Latrice Williams, Michael Bentley, and Rebén Smith. The ceremony was commemorative a very dignified.

The Little Things that Make A Big Difference

This message is written with a deep sense of gratitude for Cynthia Cato. She has exemplified the characteristics one could possess in regards to offering the best customer service to a student of Ga Tech. I am a Junior at the College of Management and the management building is my second home. In all honesty I spend more time in the UG commons than at my house and with that in mind I had to let you know about the care that Cynthia has taken in keeping our facilities clean and in order. I have yet to experience a day where I was not greeted with a smile and hello or a time where the bathrooms were not pristine. This is a huge value to me because I have OCD and an unkept bathroom greatly limits my productivity. Having her around is a great asset to me and I had to take the time to let you know about her exceptional job because as I study the art of business and what it takes to be successful I witness first hand the effect of a high quality staff can have on the customer experience. Thank you for you time and the high standard of our facilities.

Daren Roberts, Jr CoM
tucked away behind a ceiling tile inside a ladies restroom, second floor Clough, near Room 262. Jonathan turned the wallet over to Security, and we were able to return it to Ms. Jablonski. Ms. Jablonski felt like it was Christmas in January!! I would like to say, "Thank you Jonathan for a job well done! Without your assistance, we may have never solved this case!"

Keep up the good work!
Oro Tate
Dept. Head, Library Security

Bill,
I received a nice commendation for the guys that installed the coat racks and the shelf this morning in Dr. Reynolds lab area. That work was done by Gentle Lee and Perry Dewberry and I wanted to make sure that they receive some recognition for their great work and attitude.

Please pass along my appreciation to the guys.

Thanks,
Jeff Curtiss
Facilities Manager II
Chemistry and Biochemistry

Warren,
Thank you very much for your support on our request to clean the bridge between the College of Computing and Klaus buildings. We wanted to spruce up the bridge for an event April 19th to recognize our building donors, including Mr. Klaus, and to dedicate a plaque for a major supporter who is naming the bridge. Your efforts to ensure the bridge is sparkling again will make all of us at Georgia Tech especially proud that day.

I also want to recognize the continuing efforts of Ronnie Croy to help keep College of Computing facilities in top condition. In these tight economic times that is no small task, but I hear frequent reports from the CoC facilities team about how Ronnie has gone out of his way to make good things happen. Please extend to him our special thanks for his work on our behalf.

Best wishes and thanks for all your help.

Thomas D. Pilsch
Assistant Dean for Operations

Thank and again it's a pleasure working with your group! It's been a long time coming but the communication and the work detail has been and is on going the best since I've been working here. You and your team along with Roberts team have made great strides in your productivity along with quality of horticultural standards used. Steve

Steven R. Zwirz
Department of Housing

I just want to let you know how helpful Noel and Johnny were at 490 10th st. We had a water line leaking. They came with their tools found the line, repaired it in a couple of hours with minimal interruption to the occupants. I must add, George Robert, Richard, and Billy provide assistance too.

Thanks to All.
Bill Halabi

We’d like to give a huge thank you to all of the Building Services and Facilities employees that place and return our Recycling paper containers for us on Wednesdays. We appreciate all of your efforts.

Christopher “Bud” Johnson and Recycling crew.