The Facilities Management Annual Chili Cook-Off was held on March 22 at the newly renovated McCamish Pavilion. The esteemed panel of chili aficionados chose the fare offered by Building Services Zone 9 as this year's best, followed by Maintenance Area 4 and Building Services Zone 4. Taking home the prize for best dessert were the chefs of Building Services Zone 12.

The prize for the best hat was awarded to Shantela of Building Services Zone 8. Top honors for the bean-bag toss went to painters James and Don from Areas 1 and 4 respectively. Andy from Area 5 lead the field to win the putt-putt competition, while Alphonso, (Lo,) from Staging once again took home the trophy for the 3 point shoot-out.
As you may know, I will be retiring June 1st so this will be my last chance to write to you as the Director of Operations and Maintenance. It has been my privilege to have been given the opportunity to be involved with you all over the last 16 years. I enjoyed seeing many of you at our annual chili cook-off. This is always a fun event, with lots of chili, desserts, and friendly competition. The venue this year was back to the coliseum, but what a difference the McCamish Pavilion is from the old Alexander Coliseum. Thanks to GTAA and Cheryl Watts for allowing us to use this great facility. Also thanks to David Tate and Garry Locherman for organizing this event.

Although our Earth Day celebrations, weather wise, were a little cooler and raining than what we normally experience. Earth Day is a major event at Georgia Tech, the surrounding community, and the State of Georgia. Cindy Jackson and her team do a remarkable job in putting on this significant event. Our next event will be the Employee Appreciation Picnic. Tommy Little is working with his committee to make sure this is an event everyone will enjoy.

As I stated earlier, this is my last opportunity to speak to you through Bill Halabi’s newsletter. I have mentioned to many of you, I have been at this job and place longer than any other in my life. Although, I was in the Air Force for 26 years, I was never in any one place for very long so I didn’t have the opportunity to work with a specific group of people for long. Here I have had the opportunity and I will treasure the experiences and relationships I have had the past 16 years.

I have had the opportunity to see many changes at Georgia Tech. The Campus has doubled in size while I have been here. The move across the connector to Tech Square and the development of the bio-campus are the two most noticeable changes. Tech Square revitalized one of Atlanta’s most notorious areas into one of the most attractive areas in Atlanta. In a similar manner, the bio-campus took an area of down trodden buildings and totally un-kept landscape and turned it into a beautifully landscaped area high tech buildings involved in complex research.

What I am most proud of is the way Maintenance and Operations grew our capabilities and expertise to maintain these highly complex buildings. Along the way, we became recognized by our peers as an organization they could use as a benchmark to measure their success. Even though I am very proud of what has been accomplished while I have been here, I leave knowing the best is yet ahead.

I wish you all continued success and challenge you to embrace the future by “loving change, embracing ambiguity and being resilient”.

Facilities Quarterly Editorial Staff

Editor-in-Chief
Bill H.
Assistant Editors
Warren P.
Irene E.
Staff/Representatives
Sonia R.
Cheryl T.
Taffie M.
Sandra G.
Heart L.
1. **What functions is your group responsible for?**

Event set ups, Commencement, homecoming, family weekend, earth day, departments events and student event. We also handle the majority of smaller office/equipment moves on campus. Then we also do odd and ends jobs, unload trucks with the lifts.

2. **How many employees do you have and their names?**

Brandon
Jerrick
Derrick
Alphonso

3. **What is your group’s day like?**

Depends on the day. Normally we do 5 to 10 student deliveries across campus to different location. Then either set up the bigger events or do a few office moves depending on what needs to be handled that day. So during a normal day we do 10 to 15 tables and chairs deliveries. it ranges from 10 tables to 300 tables and chairs to match. we also can handle 6 office moves during the day after the student deliveries of tables and chairs.

4. **What would you like to tell your facilities department staff?**

Schedule earlier.

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**To get help from our Information Technology team email to:**

askit@facilities.gatech.edu

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**Facilities is on Twitter**

We are on Twitter now! Twitter is a popular micro-blogging service available both online and on smartphones! Follow us @GT_Facilities for news and info relevant to our organization.

**Spicework**

The Facilities I.T. department has implemented SpiceWorks, an open-source helpdesk software application. Its purpose is to assist the team members in managing their requests for assistance, as well as ongoing, long-term projects. When an email is sent to askit@facilities.gatech.edu, a ticket is automatically generated with the sender and details of the message. It is then assigned to a team member who handles the request in a timely manner.
Ga Tech Receives its 5th “Tree Campus USA” Award

Congratulations to Georgia Tech Landscape department on receiving its Fifth “Tree Campus USA” award. Hyacinth and his team at the Landscape department earned this well-deserved honor. Hyacinth’s department was featured in Georgia Tech Student Government publication SGA Sustainability Committee Newsletter.

The Arbor Day Foundation and Toyota congratulate the 191 colleges and universities that received Tree Campus USA distinction in 2012! Together these campuses planted 41,771 trees and invested over $26.6 million on tree planting, care and management. Because of their commitment to trees, the nearly 2.5 million students who currently attend these schools, and the generations to come, will enjoy the many benefits trees provide to their campus community.

Hyacinth and his Wife.

Ga Tech Beautification Day 2013

On Saturday, March 30, hundreds of students took part in Tech Beautification Day, an annual volunteer event at Georgia Tech. Student volunteers spent the morning helping out with various landscaping and cleanup projects on campus. This year, three of the projects benefitted the recycling program. Students helped to clean up the community recycling center on east campus, paint a mural at one of the recycling alcoves in the Klaus building, and install signs at four of the outdoor recycling sites. Thank you to the student volunteers, Tech Beautification Day coordinators, and Georgia Tech Landscape Services for all of your hard work! The Landscape team supervise 721 student and 30 employees. Each volunteer worked 3 hours. They planted and installed the following:

Over 500 Bales of pine straw.
11 trees
235 shrubs
356 perennials
3000 Square feet of sods
About 3 tons of river rocks
40 cubic yards wood-chips
Spring is here! Please go outside and enjoy the nice weather!

Georgia Tech’s Landscaping Office would like to invite everyone to take a break and enjoy the green spaces on campus. Now is a great time to have a picnic outside or play a game of Frisbee with friends. Also, please help us keep these green spaces green by not cutting across the fields or landscaped areas to get to your destination.

Continual trudging through the green spaces on campus causes erosion and paths to form. Several areas on campus, including the Tech Green, have become heavily eroded due to pedestrian foot traffic. Pedestrian traffic causes the soil to compact and prohibits plant growth. Compaction of the soil on Tech Green also hinders water from seeping into the underground cistern. Landscaping has recently put up new signs at these critical areas to remind everyone to use the sidewalks. This will help keep the grass alive and in good shape for your recreational activities.

So the next time you are about to take a short-cut through the grass or a landscaped area, please reconsider and use the sidewalks. Thank you for helping keep Georgia Tech green!
Chili Cook Off 2013
Thanks for the hard work of many of the utility and Maintenance department, the power plant has completed a major facelift project. The work involved cleaning, painting and tagging every device on the steam plant floor. It was noted by one of the visitor that “you can eat of the floor”. Thanks to the following:

Gerald Benjamin Lead Operator
Steven Stacey
Wesley Harding
Jonathan Ware
Dan Bonney
Michael Zarate
Philip Schroeder
Dennis Smith
David Brown (Installed new Lightings and receptacles)
Eric Denison (Helped in lighting installation)
Johnny Stewart
Greg Graves
Wesley Lavender
Billy Baxter

And additional help from,
Jammie Gaines
Tony Carter
John McElreath
Marco Aviles
1.) What originally brought you to Georgia Tech?
When I got out of the military, one of my objectives was to work at a university. I just thought that would be a good fit. When I got out, I went to a school district in Palm Beach County. Then I saw the opportunity at Georgia Tech. I applied, Chuck Rhode hired me and I came to work at Georgia Tech. It has been one of the best things to ever happen to me.

2.) What is your proudest achievement at Georgia Tech?
I am most proud of the Maintenance & Operations organization we have developed over the years. When I got here, we didn’t have PM programs, a computer maintenance management system (CMMS), and we didn’t do scheduling. These are three things fundamental to a solid Maintenance program. We were also organized in the traditional shop configuration with a plumbing, electrical, carpenter, HVAC and etc shops. The first thing we did was reorganize into 4 zones and locate the zones in various buildings on Campus. As we were doing this we worked on implementing a CMMS and developing our PM programs. All these have been in place for some time now and I am very proud of the success they have achieved. In addition, I am very proud of the recognition our Landscape, Recycling, Building Services, and Energy teams have received over the years. Each of these areas have received national recognition for the programs they have developed. Even though I am very proud of what we have accomplished I know the team I leave here will enjoy even more success in the future.

3.) What is the most significant change that you’ve seen in Facilities during your time here?
In addition to the things I have already mentioned we have had major changes to our work environment. When I arrived, Facilities was mostly located in the King complex across from Neely lab on Atlantic. The King building housed the various shops, Storeroom, Staging and offices. The landscape department was located roughly were ES&T is now and Building Services was located were the women’s softball team is now. Recycling was just getting started and energy conservation was not in existence. I think the Motor Pool, Holland Plant and 10th St Plant may be the only functions still in its same place. Where Tech Square is now was one of the most derelict area of Atlanta and where the BIO campus is was an area of rundown buildings more closely recognized as a junk yard rather than a part of great Institute of learning. These dramatic changes have taken place in the relatively short time of 16 years. Others have been here much longer than me and seen even more change and I am sure when I come back to see football games I’ll find areas of Campus I’ll not recognize from my time here.

4.) Why did you decide it was time to retire now?
I’m old (laughs)! No, it’s just that I am over 70 years old, blessed with good health and it is time for my wife and I to enjoy ourselves. It is not an easy decision because I have a great team of talented/dedicated folks to work with and thoroughly enjoy working here at Georgia Tech.

5.) What’s next for Warren Page? What will you do during your retirement?
My wife and I have bought a home in Niceville Fl and we are looking forward to doing some traveling, enjoying our 10 Grandchildren and the gym is about a mile away.
Lolita Ringfield and Judy Minniefield of Building Services participated in the 2013 Publix Georgia Marathon on March 17, 2013. They volunteered at Hydration Station #19. Their job was to provide water and power-ade, encourage and support the athletes. Pictured are Judy, Lolita and Dylan.

Donald Brown
Congratulations to Donald Brown of Building Services for receiving the GTRI “Spor Award”. The award has a cash value of 150 Dollars.

1. How long did you work at Tech?
   10 years 3 months

2. What position did you hold while here at Tech?
   Maintenance Worker I and Maintenance Worker II

3. Where did you work at before Tech?
   I worker at Auto Zone and Saturn.

4. What are you planning to do with your time?
   I am going to spend most of the time fishing, metal hunting, and “Honey do” list.

5. What was the most memorable moment while at Tech?
   I have had few good moments, but the most memorable is when I got promoted to Maintenance Worker II. I will remember the help I got from my coworkers.

6. Has the campus changed in the past 120 years?
   The campus was a lot smaller. There are a lot more students now.

7. What advice do you have for your fellow co-workers?
   Georgia Tech is an excellent place to work. Even though the pay is not as good as other places, the benefits more than make up for it.

Tim Rodgers Retires On March 29, 2013

Lolita Ringfield and Judy Minniefield of Building Services participated in the 2013 Publix Georgia Marathon on March 17, 2013. They volunteered at Hydration Station #19. Their job was to provide water and power-ade, encourage and support the athletes. Pictured are Judy, Lolita and Dylan.
Area 3
Kevin Hester, our plumber, is a proud father of another baby girl, Kinsley Marie Hester. She weighed 7 pounds and 9 oz and 20.5 inches long. She was born on 3/1/2013. Congratulations to the Hester Family!

William Robertson, our electrician, will be running his 12th Peachtree Road Race! Good Luck from Area 3 !!!

We have a new painter, Lewayne Williamson. Lewayne’s son has graduated from preschool. We also have a new HVAC 1, Brandon Reyes. Charlie Mason is planning a trip to Atmore, Alabama and plans to visit the casino. Good Luck from Area 3 !!!

Mike Morse’s daughter, Theresa, is graduating from middle school and his son James is graduating from high school. Good for them!

Area 3 will miss our Maintenance II worker, Tim Rodgers! Enjoy your retirement!

Our HVAC II, Andy Zabinski, just got back from enjoying a week of relaxing on the beaches of Florida with his grand children.

Chad and his dad, Sonny, are planning on doing some 4-wheeling trips this summer.

Area 5
The Area 5 team would like to congratulate Mr. Warren Page on his upcoming retirement. We wish him the best and we know he will enjoy this next phase in his life.

Ron and Yolanda Neal are excited to have their grandson “Prince” living with them. Prince recently moved from California to Atlanta.

Richard Davidson is looking forward to vacationing early in May. He and his two daughters Jennifer, and Larissa will be traveling to West Palm Beach to enjoy the sun, the beach, and some scuba diving.

Sonia’s daughter Zelun Depina will be graduating from kindergarten at the end of this school year and Garry’s grandson Colton is graduating from elementary school and moving on to middle school.

Area 2
Area 2 would like to welcome their new new AC I, Sotha. We wish Rusty and Richard good luck on their recent retirement from Area 2.

Maurice was honored to escort Ambassador Andrew Young at his church.

Utility Maintenance
The utility Maintenance group is proud of the power plant new looks. We are working on developing a program where Georgia Tech Mechanical Engineering students perform an internship at the power plant and earn credit for their work.

Utility Maintenance

Landscape
Congratulations to Dylan Gilbert our Assistant Horticulturist on getting certified as Georgia Certified Landscape Professional (GCLP). The processes is very extensive and involve a hard exam that cover many areas of landscaping.
Hello All, I just wanted to let everyone know what an excellent, professional and safe job that Alan Bryant and his crew Jon, David, Eric and Tony did for us on Saturday. They planned out the job and followed it out in a very timely manner. I want to also express my thanks to Lance Johnson for his time and effort looking at the data and giving us his advice on how to correct the issue. Please let everyone involved know of my appreciation for their hard work.

Gregory Slagle
Facilities Manager 2 GTRI


I want to thank you all for helping with our 2012-2013 basketball season support. I know this takes considerable effort on your part and takes you away from your families, Thank you for your help.

Garry Lockerman

Dear Michael,
Thank you very much for the excellent clean up around the Stephen C. Hall Building for our March 12-13 festivities. Col. and Mrs. Hall did, in fact (as we knew they would), walk around the building and remark on how impressed they were with the exterior cleanup (despite the construction).

Please convey to your crew that the work they did was important — and noticed. My entire Writing and Communication Program is grateful to you for arranging and implementing the cleanup in such an effective manner.

Best regards,
Rebecca E. Burnett, PhD
Director of Writing and Communication, Georgia Institute of Technology

Just wanted to thank David Tate, Bryson Rollins, and many others from Facilities Area 4, for their assistance in resolving the electrical issues in the Success Center today. I appreciate the very quick response and the limited down time that we experienced.

This was a complicated issue that required many people working together to diagnose and fix the problem.

My thanks to all who immediately dropped what they were doing to assist.

Debbie Sebren Rice
Director - Information Technology
Enrollment Services

Tommy,
I wanted to send along thanks on behalf of the OIT A&I and OIT HPC teams for helping with an emergency today. We received a complicated delivery to the Rich Computing Center for OIT and the High Performance Computing group and your team helped make it successful. This order was for equipment being evaluated by our HPC group that provides services for the faculty on campus to do research and other great things. The street value is over $1 million dollars!! The truck that arrived was too big to get in behind the Rich Building while the streets are closed with the steam renovation. The staging team and Brandon responded quickly and brought equipment to help unload and move the equipment into our building.

Thanks for making this happen, we appreciate this.

thanks again,
Eric Buckhalt
Associate Director
OIT

Hi Rodd,
Take Back the Night was great! Thank you so much for your help getting the Campanile area ready! Everything was perfect! We appreciate your continued support!

Have a nice weekend.
Colleen M. Riggle
Assistant Dean of Students
Director, Women's Resource Center

Terry,
The School of Biology would like to thank Doug and Charlie for getting the lobby doors in Emerson bldg working. They came over at 4 pm and worked until the doors would secure for the night.

Frank Cannella
Facilities Manager
School of Biology, Georgia Tech

The School of Biology would like to thank Kevin Hester for the outstanding hot water heater job.

Since Kevin added the additional storage/heater tank our Professors can now wash their glassware in hot water. Making their jobs easier helps everyone involved. Our domestic hot water supply is a constant temperature, no more freezing one minute and burning hot the next.

After working in a lab all day some of our Profs. and students like to take showers, I’ve had a number of them mention how nice it is to have a constant supply of hot water on all 3 floors.

Kevin’s plumbing skills are greatly appreciated by everyone in The School of Biology.

Please thank Jedd for helping on this project. I don’t know who else was involved but thank them as well.

Frank Cannella
Facilities Manager