

F. M. News

K. S. U., Division of Facilities

Newsletter, July 2009



HOT! This one word describes the weather and it is just the beginning of summer. Here at Facilities, the jobs must go on. In the summer we work like mad to get things finished before the students come back in the fall. So not only do we have the time constraints to deal with, but the weather also. Although we try to work smart in the heat with the triple digits we experienced this last week-it can sure drain one and wear a body out. The folks in the shops know all about this.

The Special Projects crew is working at finishing a job they started around the first of October in 2007. The sun coming through the greenhouse glass in January felt good, but rest assured, that is not the case in the summer where temperatures can run 110° to over 120° on a normal day.

According to Jim Copeland, the crew is working on some Life Safety Issues in the greenhouses at Throckmorton. A lot of years ago conduit was run in the concrete. As years of water, fertilizer and wear continued; the conduit and wiring became compromised. The Special Project crew has been replacing all the wiring in the greenhouses making it a safer place for the building users and students.

A *Special Thanks* to all of you who work out in this heat to make Kansas State University a safe, clean and beautiful place for others to enjoy. Thanks also to Charlie Kranz and Jim Nelson for help getting this picture.



Jim Nelson from the Special Projects is starting his day at the Throckmorton green houses.

July Birthdays

7-3 David Hudson
7-4 Christopher Slattery

*Happy Birthday
America*



7-6 Aramenta Washington
7-7 Allan Leikam, Peggy Linke
7-9 Casey Daugherty, Donnie Silva
7-11 Cliff Anderson, Ed Gatewood
7-12 Jim Nelson
7-13 George Lyles, Ursula Carriere
7-14 Doug Coleman, Joe Brockish,
Delvin Winfough, Barb Elliott
7-16 Bob Hanks
7-17 Dale Yonning
7-18 Tim Johnson
7-19 Gypsy Snyder
7-20 Gary Hankins
7-23 Dan Plummer
7-24 Jim Vesta
7-25 Clarence Ellis
7-30 Bev Price, Barry Martin, John Harper



A Self Test... Signs that your inner Jerk is rearing its Ugly Head.

Instructions: indicate whether each statement is a true (T) or false (F) discretion of your typical feelings and interaction with the people at your workplace.

What Are Your Gut Reactions To People?

___ 1. You feel surrounded by incompetent idiots—and you can't help letting them know the truth every now and then.

___ 2. You were a nice person until you started working with the current bunch of creeps.

___ 3. You don't trust the people around you, and they don't trust you.

___ 4. You see your coworkers as competitors.

___ 5. You believe that one of the best ways to "climb the ladder" is to push other people down or out of the way.

___ 6. You secretly enjoy watching other people suffer and squirm.

___ 7. You are often jealous of your colleagues and find it difficult to be genuinely pleased for them when they do well.

___ 8. You have a small list of close friends and a long list of enemies, and you are equally proud of both lists.

How Do You Treat Other People?

___ 9. You sometimes just can't contain your contempt toward the losers and jerks at your workplace.

___ 10. You find it useful to glare at, insult, and even occasionally holler at some of the idiots at your workplace—otherwise, they never seem to shape up.

___ 11. You take credit for the accomplishments of your team—why not? They would be nowhere without you.

___ 12. You enjoy lobbing "innocent" comments into meetings that serve no purpose other than to humiliate or cause discomfort to the person on the receiving end.

___ 13. You are quick to point out others' mistakes.

___ 14. You don't make mistakes. When something goes wrong, you always find some idiot to blame.

___ 15. You constantly interrupt people because, after all, what you have to say is more important.

___ 16. You are constantly buttering up your boss and other powerful people, and you expect the same treatment from your underlings.

___ 17. Your jokes and teasing can get a bit nasty at times, but you have to admit that they are pretty funny.

___ 18. You love your immediate team and they love you, but you are all at constant warfare with the rest of the organization. You treat everyone else like crap because, after all, if you're not on my team, you either don't matter or are the enemy.

How Do People React To You?

___19. You notice that people seem to avoid eye contact when they talk to you--and they often become very nervous.

___20. You have the feeling that people are always very careful about what they say around you.

___21. People keep responding to your e-mail with hostile reactions, which often escalates into "flame wars" with these jerks.

___22. People seem hesitant to divulge personal information to you.

___23. People seem to stop having fun when you show up.

___24. People always seem to react to your arrival by announcing that they have to leave.

Scoring the test: add up the number of statements that you marked as true.

0-5 true: You don't sound like a certified jerk, unless you are fooling yourself.

5-15 true: You sound like a borderline certified jerk; perhaps the time has come to start changing your behavior before it gets worse.

15 or more true: You sound like a full-blown certified jerk; perhaps the time has come to start changing your behavior before it gets worse.

This was taken from a book written by Robert I. Sutton, PHD., "The No Asshole Rule, Building a Civilized Workplace and Surviving One That Isn't". This book was referred to by Terri McCants who was a speaker at the Facilities Leadership Workshop, "Conflict Resolution" in February.

The book talks about employees who are insensitive to their colleagues and bosses who just don't get it. Every workplace has workers who are flat-out rude, selfish, uncivil, mean-spirited, and who really don't seem to care about whom they step on. Dr. Sutton sheds real analytical light on how this ongoing problem ruins morale, lowers productivity, and can truly devastate a company's culture. Sutton confronts this issue directly and provides strategies and insights to help companies eliminate this problem. Sutton says in the end you will be asking yourself, "Am I part of the problem...or part of the solution?"

Who is New



June 8, 2009:

Jason L. Crowder was hired as a Custodial Specialist. He is working for Michael Harris for the Custodial night crew in the Vet Med complex.

June 15, 2009:

Mark D. George was hired as a Project Manager. He is working for Abe Fattaey in the Planning Department.





June 15, 2009

Stephen M. Greinke was hired as a Custodial Supervisor Senior. He is working for Michael Stoddard on the Custodial night crew.



Margaret Jensen receiving recognition From Dr. Ed Rice

June 29, 2009

Daniel Long was hired as a Custodial Specialist. He is working for Michael Stoddard on the Custodial night crew.



Larry Powell with Dr. Rice

RETIREMENT PARTY!

Facilities had three employees who have recently retired.

Margaret Jensen started working at Facilities on January 18, 1980. Larry Powell came on December 1, 1997. Both Margaret and Larry worked in the Storeroom. Their last day of work was June 12th.

Dan Reves from the Carpenter Shop finished his last day on June 30, 2009. Dan started here on April 4, 1985.

Facilities thanks all three for the time they worked here. We wish them lots of fun in their retirement.



Dan Reves with his Supervisor Galen Hageman