

# F. M. News

K. S. U., Division of Facilities

Newsletter, May 2012



Unleashing your potential

## THE ROOT OF SUCCESS

There once was a tree that produced an abundant supply of fruit.



Everyone marveled at its ability to produce a record harvest each year.

The owner who sold his fruit at the local market had become one of the wealthiest men in town and he was the envy of all who knew him.

However, as the years passed the owner spent so much of his time counting and selling his fruit that he forgot to nourish the root.

He became so prideful and focused on results that he neglected to see the signs that the tree was dying.

Then one day when the owner went to pick fruit from his tree he was shocked to discover that the tree was barren.

"How could this be," he asked?

But when he inspected the root he found his answer.

The root had dried up.

He was so focused on the fruit that he neglected the root.

He wished there was something he could do but it was too late.

It was a lesson he would never forget!

How about you? Do you focus on the numbers, the outcomes and the fruit?

Or do you focus on the purpose, people, innovation, culture and root of your success.

Always remember the amount of fruit we produce is just an outcome and measurement of how well we are nurturing our root.

If we take care of our root we'll always have an abundant supply of fruit.

Ignore the root and say goodbye to the fruit.

What is the root of your success? What do the *root* and *fruit* mean to you?

~ Jon Gordon [www.jongordon.com](http://www.jongordon.com)

## K-State Grounds Goes Electric.

K-State Facilities Services Grounds Department has recently purchased 6 used electric Gators for their fleet. These E-Gators will replace six gas powered vehicles, including one pick-up.

As the John Deere website says, "There's never been a better time to make the switch

to an all-electric utility vehicle. The Gator TE can run all day on a single overnight charge, and haul up to 500 lbs. with the same Deluxe Cargo Box you'll find on the TX and TH. All while giving you the advantage of zero emissions and zero fuel consumption. Plus it's so quiet; you won't believe your ears."

The E-Gators are used for hauling personnel and small equipment, like push mowers, weed eaters, blowers, and irrigation parts to job sites throughout the day. They have worked out well for us. They are capable of handling our needs, and we use less fuel and have zero emissions from these Gators. We also like the low noise level. It is less disturbing to building occupants when we are working close to buildings.

According to several websites that are comparing gas powered vehicles to electric powered vehicles, the electric vehicle is the better value. Here is an example from <http://solarenergy-usa.com>. They are comparing the costs of electric cars versus gasoline cars:

### **Gasoline Vehicle vs. Electric Vehicle Mileage Cost**

- **Gasoline Vehicle**
  - \$4 per gallon gasoline
  - 30 miles per gallon
  - 13¢ per mile

**\$1,560 per year**

- **Electric Vehicle**
  - 9.718¢ per kWh
  - 4.167 miles per kWh
  - 2.332¢ per mile

**\$280 per year**

According to Dale Boggs, Associate Director of Facilities, our price for electricity is 10 cents per kWh, not 9.718 cents. And we probably get a little better gas mileage from our Gators, but I think you can see that the electric vehicle is more economical to operate than the gasoline vehicle. The maintenance costs end up being relatively comparable. The initial cost of the E-Gator is a little higher than the gas powered Gator, but we were able to purchase these 6 used units for a very reasonable price.

In this time of sustainability and the need to be "green", we all need to do our part. We hope that using E-Gators for some of our transportation needs, will help us save money and will also help the environment. We feel that K-State will benefit tremendously from the use of electric powered utility vehicles.

They look like the gas powered Gators and the bed dumps are just like the gas powered Gators; as you can see by the picture below of Marcus Melander, Grounds Department Mechanic, on an E-Gator.

Written by Jackie Toburen  
Assistant Director Facilities Services



## Quality Leadership



It is humbling to see the quality of leadership we have emerging in some areas of Facilities.

Recently when an employee was promoted into a leadership position, a letter was sent to them from their direct supervisor. The letter congratulated them on their promotion saying, “You were chosen to be a leader because you have already chosen to lead. Your choice to lead is demonstrated by your ability to work with others to accomplish a task, by your need to know and understand how (*that area*) works and by finding creative solutions to sometimes difficult problems. Choosing the right person for this job would appear to be difficult, but because of your work history and ability to work effectively as a team leader, my job was made easy.”

The letter continued, “But now for the hard part, your life has changed. There will be times when in spite of all the effort you put forth to solve a problem, the problem will still be there. Put forth the effort anyway. People will talk badly of you behind your back even after helping them out of a bad situation. Help them out anyway. Even after working very hard for you and your team to become excellent in the work area, some in our team will try to tear down that excellence. Be

excellent anyway. There might even be someone that you invest a tremendous amount of time and effort into to help them do better in their job, but they just don’t get it. Invest in them anyway.

My purpose for telling you this is not to scare you or cause you to think that you made a mistake by accepting this job, it is to encourage you because all of these things that I mentioned you have already had firsthand experience with and have dealt with them effectively. Don’t second guess yourself by wondering if you are good enough to do this job because you are already doing this job.”

The rest of the letter talks about entering into a new chapter in their working life and how the supervisor is looking forward to their future plans for the job ahead of them. It closes with, Best wishes...in the new position.

Did it take time and effort for this leader to set down and write a letter expressing encouragement and faith in the good job this worker was already exhibiting? Yes! The leader also knew he was working to build quality employees and a future for his area, Facilities and Kansas State University.

Quality Leadership in action!

## May Birthdays



5-1 Fred Bammes, Mary Willoughby

5-3 Will Hirsch, Gary Kilner

5-4 Douglas Soash

5-5 Galen Hageman

5-6 Dale Billam, Michael Ayon  
 5-7 Nancy Morel  
 5-9 Kenny Windholz  
 5-12 Richard Smith, Jesse Fernandez  
 5-16 Patrick Boss, Max Collado  
 5-17 Andrew Bunel  
 5-21 Renee Leask, Randall Lindstrom  
 5-22 Mark Loberg  
 5-23 Rene Doherty, Adam Young  
 5-25 Ryan White, Lyle Herring  
 5-26 John Brown, Larry McCoy, John Lehmer  
 5-28 Alina Cummings  
 5-31 Kris Fulkerson

## CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION CEREMONY

Classified Senate hosted the annual recognition program on April 25<sup>th</sup>. Keynote speaker was John Currie, Director of K-State Athletics. John and President Kirk Schultz presented plaques thanking employees for their years of service to K-State.

**Five Years:** Debra J. Acosta, Michael W. Ashcraft, Joy A. Knutson, Daniel D. McGee, Joshua K. Quick, Michael R. Seymour II, Chad D. Starr, Ki Ja Suh, Araminta M. Washington, Delmar E. Westover

**Fifteen Years:** Darlene Jones, Lawrence A. Lee, Anthony G. Whetstone

**Twenty-five Years:** James R. Davis, Roger D. McCormick, Larry A. McCoy, Robert C. Sutterlin, Kevin M. Williams

**Thirty-five Years:** Gary I. Johnson, Riley L. Platt, Michael D. Sitton, Sharon K. Slack

**Also recognized were classified employees who had retired in 2011:** Edwin A. Albrant, Linda C. Asbury, Martin L. Barry, David M. Berner, Lowell E. Bingham, Charlotte L. Boger, Ursula Carriere, Douglas D. Coleman II, James H. Copeland, Timothy J. Eckstein, Clarence E. Ellis, Max W. Fritz, Patrick G. Gardner, Melvin M. House, Sharon K. Johnson, Carnie D. Kuhn, John H. Lantz, Peggie D. Linke, Barry S. Linn, George T. Lyles, Jr., Roger D. McCormick, Stanley J. Ostmeyer, Riley L. Platt, Terry A. Powell, Robert M. Quinn, Michael D. Sitton, Betty L. Slattery, David R. Suhling, Robert C. Sutterlin, Harry E. Willyard, Dale W. Yonning

## Employee of the Year Award

Burt Pearson  
 Ahearn Custodial Crew

The award is given for outstanding performance from January through December of 2011.



Congratulations to all, for their hard work and dedication to Kansas State University, Facilities and the State of Kansas.

“The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand.” ~ Vince Lombardi

# Who is New...

April 2, 2012

Clinton Grubbs was hired as a temporary Custodial Specialist. He is working for William Spiegel on the Recycling Crew.



William Hirsch was transferred to Utilities at the Power Plant as a Buildings System Technician. He is working for Roger Hageman.



Deena Barger was hired as a Custodial Specialist. She is working for Nancy Morel on the daytime Custodial Crew.

April 23, 2012

Roger Hinkle was transferred back from BRI to Utilities at the Power Plant as a Buildings System Technician. He is working for Christopher Falley.



Misty Jamison was hired as a Custodial Specialist. She is working for Steve Greinke on the nighttime Custodial Crew.

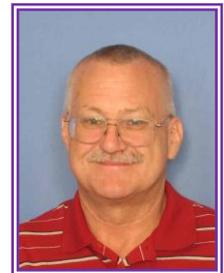


Adam Cooke was hired as a Buildings System Technician. He is working for Christopher Falley in Utilities at the Power Plant.



Christopher Falley was promoted to an Electronic Control Center Supervisor. He is working for Delvin Winfough in Utilities at the Power Plant.

Gerald Spears was hired as a Custodial Specialist. He is working for Steve Greinke on the nighttime Custodial Crew.



April 9, 2012

Cindy Harvell was hired as a Custodial Specialist. She is working for Rod Hodges on the daytime Custodial Crew.



April 30, 2012



Larry McGee was hired as the Director of Administration and Finance. He is working for Dr. Ed Rice.

Josh Webb was hired as a G.M.R.T. Sr. He is working for Rene Doherty on the Salina Campus.



Chris Morgan was hired as a temporary Custodial Specialist. He is working for Warren Berg on the daytime Custodial Crew.

William Bochte was hired as the Director of Facilities for the Salina Campus. He is working Dr. Ed Rice.



## Caught in the Act of Doing Good!



## KUDOS TO CASEY & ROY

Pictured above are Casey Daugherty and Roy Jones from the Paint Shop. Eric A. Maatta, Professor and Head of the Department of Chemistry commended Casey and Roy on the "very quick response to repair a window in the Chemistry Department"

He said, "A gust of wind had caused a window to be blown out of its guide rails, and Casey and Roy arrived very quickly after I placed the call to Minor Repairs. I stepped out of the office for a minute, and when I came back, they had fixed everything, cleaned the area, and left me a note to contact them if anything wasn't perfect. I simply wanted to be sure that they received my thanks for a job well done." "Excellent work", he stated.

## KUDOS TO TRAVIS & BILL



Susan Rose at Vet Med had good things to say about Facilities Vet Med Maintenance workers.

Rose manages animal housing at Cole Hall. On a recent weekend, she was monitoring the temperature in the unit. Not being able to resolve the issue herself that Saturday, she called Travis Quigly at home around 8:00 in the morning. He came immediately to her assistance. He worked all day resolving and rectifying the matter, not leaving until late that day, even missing a family event.

Susan said state workers get stereotyped as being lazy and not having the same quality work ethics as the workers in private industry. She said, "Travis breaks that mold or stereotype. He routinely goes over and above the norm, working outside the box."

Susan said she could say the same thing about Bill Hynek, Facilities plumber at Vet Med. There have been numerous times and situations at her work place where she has worked with both Travis and Bill. She is very thankful for these guys and their dedication to their job and work place.

Special thanks to Eric and Susan for taking the time to contact us and extending their appreciation of the work done. We also thank Casey, Roy, Travis and Bill for their quality work ethics and contribution they give to K-State.

*Congratulations!*



*Casey Daugherty  
Paint Shop*

Casey has won the "Quest for Excellence" slogan contest. Her winning entry is, "Do Good, Feel Good!!!" Her prize for the winning entry has won Casey a paid day off work. Way to go, Casey!

More information about the promotion item and the kickoff party will be announced at a later date.