**The Facilitator**

Official Newsletter of The Facilities Services Department of The University of Tennessee, Knoxville

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**Rep View**

By Ken (Wolfy) Wolfenbarger

Below is a listing of accomplishments put into effect as policy due to the efforts of the Employee Relations Committee over the past several years:

- Steel-toed boots bought for the employees
- Overtime compensation paid to employees during a holiday week
- The inclusion of Memorial Day as an additional annual holiday
- Training classes (job-related and non-job related) offered each year to employees

These are just a few examples of what the Employee Relations Committee have proposed as changes and additions and have been implemented into the policies of the University.

We as an Employee Relations Committee are very proud of these accomplishments knowing that the employees we represent have already greatly benefited.

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**UT Recycles, UT Cares!!**

By Sarah Surak

Don’t throw away those aluminum cans and plastic bottles! Help decrease pollution, conserve natural resources, and reduce energy use by participating in the UT Recycles, UT Cares Program.

On October 1, UT began a new recycling contract with Alliance Recycling and Waste, Inc, leading to a few changes in the recycling program. Recycling bins around campus now collect two material streams, “all paper” and “aluminum cans and plastic.” In any paper recycling bin you can now recycle white paper, mixed paper, newsprint, junk mail, and paper as thick as cereal boxes. Plastic and aluminum recycling bins now collect all aluminum cans and plastics # 1-7 (anything with a lid). To recycle “special materials” such as batteries, ink cartridges, CDs, and computer disks, simply drop off the material in the recycling coordinator’s office in Grounds and Building Services. Cardboard collection remains the same.

Need another reason to recycle? You could win a new car! November 15 is America Recycles Day. Sign the America Recycles Day Pledge and you will automatically be entered into a national drawing for prizes such as a new Ford Focus, a weekend for two, and more! Pledge forms are available from Sarah Surak (recycle@utk.edu or 4-5107) or drop by Grounds and Building Services to fill one out today.

More exciting recycling opportunities are on the way! On November 15 tailgaters for the UT/Mississippi State game will be given the opportunity to recycle their aluminum cans and plastic bottles. If all goes as planned, tailgaters will have the opportunity to recycle at every home football game next year. A lawn waste composting program is also in the early stages of development. For more information about these and other exciting recycling opportunities UT Recycles, UT Cares program contact Sarah Surak.

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**Bonds and Our Budget**

You may have heard something about this. What it boils down to is that the State has interpreted the State Constitution to deem that budgeted labor for State employees cannot be paid from projects funded with bonds issues. Projects likely to be funded with bonds are projects like new buildings, major renovations, the major steam line work we have been doing, HPER swimming pool renovation, roof replacements, chiller replacements, and similar projects. This means that, in the future, we will have to minimize using our labor on these projects, and will have to rely more on contract labor of some sort. The University administration is trying to get this interpretation revised. In the past, we have had between $400,000 and $800,000 labor per year on these projects. In this current fiscal year we have about $800,000 in labor that has already been spent, and another $800,000 in labor would be spent if we completed this work with our own folks. We are not sure if we will be reimbursed for the monies already spent.

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**Fixtures**

Vaughn Monroe and Steve Trewhitt have recently completed 40 years of service with the University. Billy Burger has completed 35, Mike Sherrell has completed 30, and Darrell Lawhorn, Paul (Peanut) Pritchard, and Chuck Silvey have completed 25 years of service. Congratulations and thanks.

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**Uniforms**

Leo is reporting that the uniform contract will be rebid in the next few weeks. The existing contract runs out in December. Leo is getting a lot of inquiries from companies that have not bid in the past so we are hopeful we will get good bids from new companies, as well as the ones we have used in the past.

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**INSURANCE PROGRAM ENROLLMENT**

Keep in mind that insurance enrollment is between October 15, 2003 and November 14, 2003. If you want to make changes, now is the time.

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New recycle containers are showing up around campus.
Facilities Services Vacancies:
- Engineering – Estimator, Mechanical Engineer, Architect, Senior Secretary
- Steam Plant – Mechanic
- Central Supply – Senior Material Control Clerk
- Carpenter Shop – Supervisor, General Superintendent, Cabinetmaker
- Electric Shop – Crafts Assistant
- Preventive Maintenance – Supervisor
- Building Services – Floor Cleaner (2), Custodian (2), Service Aide II (3)
- Arena – Custodian (4)

Blue/Orange Blood Drive
Don’t forget the Blue/Orange blood drive the week before the Kentucky game. It is disconcerting that it has been several years since UT has won this worthwhile competition. MEDIC is in desperate need of blood. As always, you do not need to use leave time to go to MEDIC to donate.

Reminder – Lunches with the Executive Director are scheduled for the last Tuesday in each month from 12 noon until 1:00 PM for folks on first shift, and at 5:30 PM for folks on second shift.

Food and Clothing
Don’t forget the Coats for the Cold Campaign and Christmas Baskets these coming holidays. Coats for the Cold will be collected through mid-November and Christmas basket collection will start in late November. We need to remember and help those less fortunate than ourselves.

Haunts
Always thought there was something about these folks. Jim McCarter, Paul (Peanut) Pritchard, and Wayne Shoffner share a birthday on 10/31!!! In case you don’t get it, that is HALLOWEEN!!! They have haunting personalities??? Oh, well. Happy Birthday!!!

Folks A’ Movin’ On
(Recent Retirees)
- By Jennifer Hatcher
- Don Lawson
- Gordon Coward

Did ya know?
The Key Shop cuts over 20,000 keys each year, and uses over 150,000 pins (tumblers) each year rekeying doors

Movin’ Around
By Jennifer Hatcher
- Sherrill Cox – Program Resource Specialist
- John Berczy – Asst. General Maintenance Craft Worker
- Marie Lemons – Custodial Foreman
- Joey Longmire – Grounds Foreman

BE SAFE!!!
EVERYONE IS IMPORTANT!!

Bobs Evans and John Parker Memorial Scholarships have been established to help dependents of Facilities Services employees, retirees, and survivors to defray some of the costs of attending The University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Applications for these scholarships are due by February 1 of each year for the following fall semester. See Beth Atkins for applications.

Scorecard:
- There have been 204 new chargeable projects generated since 7/1/03 at an estimated cost of $2.7M.
- There have been 78 maintenance projects generated since 7/1/03 at an estimated cost of $5.3M.
- We currently have 310 open non-maintenance projects on the books with an estimated cost of $15.4M.

UPCOMING EVENTS:
- Holiday and Closing Schedule:
  - Thanksgiving – November 27-28
  - Christmas – December 22-26
  - New Years – January 1
  - Martin Luther King Day – January 19

New Faces in Town
By Jennifer Hatcher
- Sarah Surak – Recycling Coordinator
- Robert Crumley – Plumbing Shop
- James Hancock – Plumbing Shop
- James Nipper – Building Services
- Travis Solomon – Building Services
- Nikki Woosley – Preventive Maintenance
- Tracy McCulley – Building Services
- Grace Payne – Building Services
- Joishua Tuggle – Building Services
- Randall Hanson – Building Services
- Jerry Helton – Arena
- Ginger Slusser – Building Services
- Juanita Yates – Building Services
- William Davis – Electric Shop
- Veronica Huff - Administration
- John Palmer – Grounds
- Glon Lanagan – Preventive Maintenance
- Darrell Moore – Building Services
- Charles Taylor – Grounds
- Jesse Cowden – Arena
- Carl Brashears – Electric Shop
- William Wilson – Building Services

SHORTS
- UT-Knoxville uses about 87,000,000 cubic feet, or 650,000,000 gallons of water each year. This volume is equivalent to about 1.25 miles in length of the Tennessee River as it passes the Arena.

SAFETY
- Lockout/Tagout. – Be sure to lock out energy sources when working around them.