

## Facilities Provides Safety Support to Students During Homecoming Float Preparation



Pictured left to right Tim Nix, Nikki Williamson (Campus Activities & Events), Dwight Watson, Jonathan Reed, Donnie Brewer, Brad Newman, Ryan Wagner, Mark Wilson, Sandra McCurry, Robin Newberry, Lara Armstrong, Todd Barnette and Cecelia Jackson. Not pictured: Patrick Fant and Mac Bevill, Keith Martin

By: Cecelia Jackson

As I parked my car near Sikes Hall on a beautiful Sunday morning in October, I could see a beehive of activity on Bowman Field. Students were busy getting ready to erect displays in preparation for Homecoming 2016 “Back in the Valley.” Facilities staff were busy as well. Tim Nix, Ryan Wagner, and Mac Bevill were putting the final touches on a set of scaffolding to be used as a reference for the students while building their own. Keith Martin was setting up the tents for us and mixing a cooler of Gatorade, which incidentally, turned out to be wildly popular with the students. I was hauling Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to the field.

Because this was the first time that Facilities would provide safety support for Homecoming, we were not quite sure what to expect. The intention was to be available to answer any questions, give out PPE (gloves, protective eyewear, bump caps, etc.), and generally help out in any way necessary. We couldn’t have asked for better weather throughout the week and it was really fun for us to interact with the students.

Nikki Williamson (Campus Activities and Events) and Kaleigh Sandness (Central Spirit) were the event contacts. They both seemed very excited and thankful for any safety support we could provide, ensuring the safety of the students. Ryan, Tim and I attended their two-hour safety training session on Sunday 9/25 for approximately 200 students.

During the week before the event, Sandra McCurry coordinated Facilities efforts to prepare the field by marking Utilities (Scott

Richey) and irrigation (Rick Boulanger’s Crew), installing power (Ricky Brown’s Crew), stringing the field (Jeff Baker’s Crew), coordinating trash and recycle pick up, and setting the telephone poles to anchor the floats. Throughout the build, Facilities staff were on hand to fix power outages (Brad Newman), assist with safety concerns and hand out PPE, First Aid and Gatorade and perform daily safety inspections (Ryan, Tim, Lara Armstrong and Nikki). Landscape Crews were busy all week refueling generator light towers, emptying trash containers, stringing and restringing the field as necessary, and tackling the big job of cleaning up afterwards.

The major safety concern of the week seemed to center on the safe use of scaffolding. Many years ago, Facilities provided all the scaffolding for the float build. Currently, the organizations rent the equipment from an outside vendor and there is much confusion around what a “set” of scaffolding includes. Next year we are hoping to have more scaffold certified personnel (one per site) on the field that first Sunday to help ensure the students have all the pieces necessary to erect a safe set of scaffolding. We will be offering Scaffold Certification training in the near future and I will be looking for additional volunteers next year.

Everyone I talked with in Facilities enjoyed the interaction with the students. They seemed to really enjoy taking part in the long time tradition of the Homecoming Float Build on Bowman.

**I’d like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved.**



### Jack Patterson Earns a Certificate of Appreciation from Clemson Air Force ROTC



Jack's attitude and smile, as well as his dedication and willingness to go above and beyond what is needed earned him this certificate!

The certificate reads: *"For your support of Clemson Air Force ROTC from January 1, 2015 to October 15, 2016. Your continuous support and dedication to the maintenance and improvement of Det. 770's facilities has been critical to improving the education environment for 150 Clemson cadets. Your actions exemplify Clemson University's commitment to our military heritage and support of our nation's defense."*



Mack Whitmire echoed and expanded on Jack's ROTC compliment. Mack stated "Jack has a great work ethic and is always a pleasure to work with. In addition to Jack's normal work he is doing special work, building a fence, at the Hanover House. Jack is asked for by name when any work is to be performed at Fort Hill, the Hanover House, or the Trustee House. His knowledge of carpentry and his ability to make things work keep these old buildings in great condition."

Before hearing of Jack's Certificate, Vicki Durham brought to my attention the custom interior shelving Jack created for two of the newer maintenance trucks. Jack and Greg Lawrence proudly showed me Jack's work (photo below.) Mack said "Jack took his time building these shelves to the exact specifications based on employee needs. The drawers and shelves increase efficiency (allow more supplies to be on hand) and increase safety by safely separating and storing items. Jack's build quality is second to none, so we look forward to these additions for many years to come."

#### Jack Patterson and Greg Lawrence demonstrate the new vehicle shelving



#### From Todd

As you may have heard, I have been asked to continue serving in the role of Interim Chief Facilities Officer for an additional two years. When Bob left, I was glad to take on this role for a short time because I thought I could be of use in selecting our next successful CFO. As the months have passed, I must admit that I am enjoying the role, challenged every day by all that it involves and more than anything, grateful for the support I have received from so many in University Facilities and other departments. I don't claim to have all of the qualifications that some might bring to the position, but I will tell you that no one can be found who appreciates this department more than I do or has a greater level of respect for your service and who you are as valued members of Clemson University. I do think that my 29 years in facilities management at the State and University level, including 18 years as your Business Officer, give me a unique perspective on all that we do and what we can accomplish. With the full admission that I can only do well with your continuing support, I look forward to the next two years as a chance to improve an already great department and to better position us for a changing campus.

Now that I will be serving you in this role a bit longer, it is time to look at some long range plans. I hope you know by now that I want decisions made with the input of those most affected, so I will be asking many of you to be involved in our decision making process. This could involve how we are structured, how we deliver services, how we use technology and many other issues that I think are worth studying. I will be sharing more information with you soon on the vision I see for our department for the next two years. However, if you have read any of my past articles, you probably already know the theme; find ways to better serve this campus each day.

Finally, I want to thank each of the Directors for their support and the work they continue to do helping me as I learn, and hopefully grow, in this interim role. I could not have asked for more.

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**From Todd Continued from page 2**

Likewise, thanks to everyone else in University Facilities who has helped me so much all ready and has been so kind in their encouragement. I hope you will join me as we work together to build on the successes you have already made through your service in University Facilities.

I wish you all the best for the coming Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons.



**Randy Medlin Compliment:**

We love Randy (Medlin) over here. He does such a wonderful job. He is already almost finished with all of the offices in hanging whiteboards, peg boards and other items.

Just wanted to pass this along. All of the ladies in the offices passed this along to me. I knew this from the many times he has been over to help our Research Office with the various work requests. ☺

Thank you too for organizing all of these requests.

**Kathy Gibson  
CLEMSON OFFICE OF RESEARCH**

**Russ Coker Compliment:**

I want to take a minute to let you know that Russ was an enormous help to us when someone lost a set of keys and locks needed to be changed! We had a number of cores that needed to be changed in an emergency situation and many, many keys to make for doors that our researchers share and need to access frequently. Russ was able to quickly assist us and help with getting all the cores changed and all the keys cut. This was amazing considering he had to do it all without help!! We really, really appreciate his great attitude and willingness to help us. He is an asset to the CU Maintenance group!

**WENDY BALDWIN**  
College of Engineering, Computing and Applied Sciences



## Birthdays



**November**

- 11/4 James Ezell
- 11/4 Cynthia Gaines
- 11/5 Jonathan Reed
- 11/6 Corinthia Williams
- 11/10 Steve Fisher
- 11/11 Jon Lundberg
- 11/13 Barry Anderson
- 11/15 Mike Gilstrap
- 11/18 Ron Staton
- 11/18 Jonathan Sturner
- 11/19 Steven Pate
- 11/22 Scott Banks
- 11/22 Joey Greene
- 11/25 Tommy Watt
- 11/26 Rodney McMahan
- 11/27 Linda Jennings

**December**

- 12/2 Tommy Fallaw
- 12/2 Cory Martin
- 12/3 Claudia Johnson
- 12/3 Annie Lee
- 12/4 Joseph Kassab
- 12/4 Paul Minerva
- 12/5 Bradley Justice
- 12/5 Ron Hall
- 12/6 Mark Dwayne Wilson
- 12/9 Evelyn Gantt
- 12/9 Sharon Hall
- 12/14 Ronald B Felty
- 12/17 Byron Balch
- 12/18 Kennon Burgess
- 12/18 Daniel Lee Robertson
- 12/18 Mark Albertson
- 12/18 Michael Keane
- 12/20 Sam Zanka
- 12/20 Anthony Coleman
- 12/21 David Sibilio
- 12/26 Carol Routh
- 12/27 Shawn Duncan
- 12/28 Mark Lyles
- 12/29 Ray Turner
- 12/30 John Howard
- 12/31 Allen Lohmann

**January**

- 1/1 Richard Cox
- 1/2 Christie Snider
- 1/5 Patricia Fruster
- 1/6 Billy Grant

**January Continued**

- 1/6 Alex Steve McMahan
- 1/6 Orenthia Smith
- 1/7 Matthew Jones
- 1/9 Anthony Coogler
- 1/10 Michael Owens
- 1/11 Charles Thornton
- 1/11 Thomas Summerell
- 1/12 James Ryals
- 1/13 Claude McKern
- 1/20 Frankie Pressley
- 1/20 James Dillard
- 1/24 Larry Wilbanks
- 1/25 Martha Weidendorf
- 1/26 Samul White



New Hire

William Cogdill Custodial/Recycling

**Facilities Holiday Luncheon will be held in Harcombe this year on Tuesday, Dec. 13th starting at 11:30am.**

**Please watch for an invitation to be published later this month.**

**Sliced turkey & gravy, dressing, green beans, macaroni & cheese,, sweet potato casserole, cranberry sauce, rolls and butter, assorted deserts to include pecan pie will be served.**

If you have information, an article, upcoming event or compliment you would like included in future Facilitator issues, please send the information to:  
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