

GAPPA

# GAPPA 2010

## “Leading in Lean Time”



Despite the downturn of the economy, the annual meeting was successful. 80 members from 31 institutions and the Board of Regents attended. The tradeshow was full and the vendors had plenty of traffic. This is the last year GAPPA hold the an-

nual meeting in the current convention center. Next year, we will have a temporary facility that will be large and comfortable. The year after, we will hold the meeting in the newly erected facility.

### Joseph White Passes Away

*Mr. Joseph White a founding member of GAPPA. Passed away last May. Mr. White has been involved with GAPPA since 1983 and up to the last few days of his life. On page 3 is an excerpt from the Eulogy given by David Sims of Macon State College.*



# School Profile

1. School Name  
**Georgia Institute of Technology**
2. Facility Director's Name  
**Warren Page**
3. Director's Title  
**Operations and Maintenance Director**
4. Campus size in square feet or acres  
**14.4 million square feet, 400 acres.**
5. How many employees in Facility Department?  
**400**
6. How many students?  
**20,000**
7. What is the most challenging issue for your department?  
**Lately, it has been funding and keeping up with our preventative maintenance program that we started 15 years ago.**
8. What is your school known for?  
**One of the best engineering schools in the country.**

1. School Name  
**Kennesaw State University**
2. Facility Director's Name  
**Jodie Sweat**
3. Director's Title  
**Director of Plant Operations**
4. Campus size in square feet or acres  
**329 acres, 5,500,000 square feet**
5. How many employees in Facility Department?  
**115**
6. How many students?  
**23,900**
7. What is the most challenging issue for your department?  
***The rapid growth of the campus and student enrollment with static resources.***
8. What is your school known for?  
***The strong academic preparation that our students receive and the rapid growth of the University.***

## Prillaman Hall Kennesaw State University's New Health Science Building

As students prepare to return to Kennesaw State University for the new academic year, campus officials dedicated a new \$56 million health sciences building Thursday, Aug. 5, adding a towering new academic facility to the burgeoning campus. The nearly 200,000-square-foot building houses the WellStar College of Health and Human Services and is named for long-time KSU Foundation trustee Bob Prillaman and his wife, Lil.

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My phone rang one August afternoon in 2005. I answered "Plant Operations, David". And I heard these words: "You ever preached a funeral?" "No sir, Mr. White." "Well there's one you're going to preach" "Yes sir" I said....."Does Kat know?" He said..."Of course she knows". That was the extent of the conversation. There were no follow up instructions or requests. Mr. White's part of his funeral arrangements had just been completed in less than 30 seconds.

Joseph M. White, Jr. was born January 8, 1922 and was the oldest of 5 children, Eloise, Jean, Ira (his brother who died in WWII), and Betty. He married Katherine who was his bride for over 64 years. The first time Kat saw Mr. White was on a blind date. He wore a blue pin stripe suit with a cigar sticking out of his mouth and a hole cut in his shoe for his broken toe. They fell in love and married 2 months and 4 days later.

After August of 2005, when Mr. White would tell me a story, I would write it down. I kept a "Mr. White" folder and added notes from time to time. Most of what follows today are memories of a good life and a long life as it was told to me by Mr. White.

He grew up on a large farm in Montrose, GA located between Cochran and Dudley. He liked to crack black walnuts on an anvil and eat them. He grew up playing baseball and football. Mr. White said: "Never picked a hundred pounds of cotton in my life; plenty of help." His sister Eloise recently verified this when she remembered their Daddy saying he never pick enough cotton to make a handkerchief! He had fond memories of two Creeks on the farm: Rocky Creek and Crooked Creek. He would say, "Plenty of fish. We used a rifle and if you shot

within 12" of the fish he **would** come to the top."

Mr. White grew up going to a Nazarene Church. "David," he would say, "it was about as far from your office to the tennis courts. Not a lot of money in those days, Joe Hudson was the preacher. I should have listened to him better, but I had my mind on playing ball. He drove an old Model T and was paid mostly with whatever was available, turnip greens and such."

Mr. White started his career with the Central Georgia Rail Road. And he spent the 1st year and 9 months as an apprentice.

In 1942, he enlisted in the Navy as 1st Class Petty Officer and in 6 months, he was Chief Petty Officer. His first 3 years and 2 months of the war was state-side, stationed at the Patuxent Naval Air Test Center in Maryland. He remembered that across from Solomon Island at that time armored boats and landing barges were being built so fast that as he put it: "They were throwing them out the door like a chicken eating corn." He learned early that it's not what you know but who you know when a friend had him transferred to Norfolk, Virginia where he was introduced to his new superior officer, Captain Cook. Mr. White was in favor with Capt. Cook. "I got just about anything I wanted", he said. Once Mr. White mentioned he had to walk a lot, and Capt. Cook got him a scooter. He also spent some time on the USS Missouri. He remembered he had the top bunk; and Herman Tallmudge was on the bottom. His last 3 months were spent in Cuba. He was test driving a boat when Roosevelt came over the loud speaker and announced the War was over. Mr. White's summary of military life during World War II was: The Navy was great!

After the war Mr. White went right

back to the Central Georgia Rail Road and got to skip the remainder of his 4 year apprenticeship. He started in Cedar Town as a foreman and spent 23 years with the Rail Road. He enjoyed his work there until they wanted him to move out of state and Kat said, NO.

In 1966, Mr. White called Frank Dunham. Frank said, "I got a job for you. We're about to start Macon Jr. College and we haven't pushed the first tree down yet." Mr. White was hired as the Resident Engineer Inspector during construction of the college and became the Plant Operations Director, retiring 32 years later in 1997. He liked most of the changes that took place between then and now. He was even ok when we demolished 3 of the old buildings last year. He did get aggravated after we replaced some chill and hot water pipes a few years ago. He said, "I like to lay in my bed at night sometimes and think about where this and that is that runs underground between buildings. I knew where every pipe in the ground was until you moved them." Mr. White loved to work. He loved the people at the college and was proud of his staff. He could give an order and take an order. Even at 88 years old he had hopes of returning to full time work, but his body simply would not cooperate with him.

His involvement in the Plant Operations Association GAPPA is legendary. He started early in the organizations life and never stopped. I could not list the many honors the organization has bestowed on him. But I can remember exactly when I met Mr. White. It was 1987, at the Jekyll Island Holiday Inn. He was fussing and fuming that the

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vendor responsible for setting up trade show booths was late. Mr. White was pressed for time and I fell right in with him and helped finish the job. We were instant friends.

He was the GAPPA Treasurer for over 20 years and made many of annual meeting arrangements. Even in his final days he was giving specific directions concerning the 2010 annual meeting. When he gave advice either at the college or for GAPPA it was stewed down into few words and you had better been listening because he was usually right. "He had good ideas and sometimes I liked to tell him, "you're right" and he liked to tell me "Yea; I know I'm right".

Mr. White was also a first class hunter. We could not cover all of the hunting stories told by Mr. White in a day. He had Walker hounds for fox hunting and kept them about 11 years. In 1956 and 57 he won the Alabama state fox hunting meet. He had 18 dogs. During those years the Rail Road kept him busy and away from home and in his spare time he hunted. So Kat decided if she was going to see him she would have to go hunting. Kat learned all the dogs voices and could tell you who struck the trail and who was leading the race at the head of the pack. Crip the three legged dog was their favorite. In Cedar Town where they lived at the time; Mr. Vance would deliver bones for the dogs to eat; and the vet, Charles Chiggers, made house calls.

At another point in his hunting adventures he kept beagles and loved to rabbit hunt. He would tell me about his Daddy who could shoot a rabbit running ahead of the dogs with a "lemon squeeze 38 pistol"- "Daddy never left the house without it."

On shotgun shells he could buy 8 for 25 cents. "Climax Shells, they smoked real bad but they shot good. " He killed over a 100 doves in one day several times. He commented that when he and his daddy stepped onto a dove field people would make lots of room for them because as he put it, they were "unbeatable". He said,"And that's not bragging, that's just the way it was."

After Mr. White's retirement he had his share of Doctor's visits. One of his most memorable Doctor's comments – and he had a lot of them – was made January 26, 2006..... He called me.... "Going to Dublin to the VA next week. The doctor can't do anything for me but I like to go down to eat at the Red Lobster. Good food."

Mr. White had what I always considered to be a **Roll Call** for friends and family. A person named during roll call would be accompanied by a complement, concern or a favorite memory. It's noteworthy that bad memories were never roll call material. Mr. White was good at forgiving. **Ephesians 4:32** And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

He loved spending time with his grand children (Joseph and Andy) and his great grand children (Chloe, Jay, Drew, and most recent Anderson). He loved to be around them and have them visit. **Proverbs 17:6** ¶ Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers.

On June 8, 2007 after lunch at the S&S he said "I have some wonderful memories David. I don't think I'll have many more. I feel alright but I can tell..... I'm winding down."

Several years ago when Mr. White and Kat visited in our home, he and I were talking about eternity. I asked Mr. White to tell me how he was going to get to heaven. He said that in 1942; he was in Virginia outside the military base one night under a big tent - all by himself - in the pouring down rain. World War II was underway and Mr. White had volunteered to be a part of it. He said he was scared and did not know where he would go if he died. Mr. White described how he got alone with God that night and accepted his Son, The Lord Jesus Christ as his own personal Savior. Note that this transaction involved Mr. White and THE LORD, nobody else was involved.

We can look at Mr. White's his life from that point on and find mistakes just like we could for anybody in this building, but when God Almighty looks at the life of Joe White from that night in 1942 what God sees is a perfect, sinless, obedient son. Why? Mr. White accepted the PAYMENT for his sins by accepting the PERSON of the Lord Jesus Christ and became part of the Body of Christ - bone of Jesus Christ's Bone and Flesh of His Flesh.

One more memory from Mr. White at the close of our last good visit on May 21: He said to me: "Well, **we will** see each other tomorrow. I hope everything is going right then.

Yes Sir Mr. White - We will see each other some tomorrow. And I'm certain; everything will be going right then.

*All Scripture is from The Authorized King James Bible*

## Southern Polytechnic Completes Renovations on Three Buildings

Southern Polytechnic State University recently completed renovations on three separate buildings during the break before Fall Semester 2010. The much-needed renovations were part of the ongoing construction throughout much of the campus as SPSU continues to grow to meet the needs of a student enrollment that has grown by 37 percent since 2005. Smyrna-based Benning Construction Company (BCC) was selected as the general contractor for the multiple renovations that included the Lawrence V. Johnson Library, Building J (Atrium Building) and the Academic Building H.

The projects were uniquely challenging due to accelerated schedules that required phasing and strict time lines that varied from eight weeks to 12 days depending on the relocation of faculty, staff, furnishings and equipment. In addition to the challenges presented by the short schedule, Benning Construction faced down the technical and logistical problems associated with relocating multiple computer labs and data infrastructure with no downtime for the students and faculty. Additional areas covered by the renovation work included computer labs, study rooms, physics labs, administrative offices as well as multiple classrooms, corridors and common gathering areas in each of the three separate buildings which were all successfully completed prior to the start of Fall Semester 2010.

Benning Construction Company was established in 1953 and has completed over 1200 projects throughout the Southeastern United States.

More information about Benning can be found at [www.benningnet.com](http://www.benningnet.com)



Top: Library Exterior  
Lower Left: Building J  
Lower Right: Library Interior



## Kennesaw Plant Operations Receives Governor's Commendation of Excellence in Customer Service for Recovery Operations after The February Floods.



## Georgia Tech Is Reducing Its Carbon Footprint

Georgia Tech has taken many steps in the last few years to reduce its carbon footprint. The Facilities Landscape department recycles 98% of the grass clippings, 80 % of all wood products, 97 % of leaf drops, and about 25 % of pruning products from shrubs.



Compost of grass clipping and leaves

