Katie Stewart in Procurement for obtaining her Georgia Certified Purchasing Associate (GCPA) certification.

Lynn Beard in Post Award Accounting completed the NCURA Certificate Program.

In Post Award Accounting, Brittany Taylor will graduate from Piedmont College on May 5th with her MBA. Congratulations! Also from Procurement, Chad Cox married Dana Peek on April 8, 2018. Best wishes!

The following people are celebrating years of service milestones in May of this year:

**Christy Daniel** – Accounts Receivable: 10 years
**Broa Byrd** – Student Account Services: 5 years
**Linda Davis** – Post Award Accounting: 5 years
**Pauline LaCount** – Procurement: 5 years
**Kimberly Perry** – Bursar and Treasury Services: 5 years
**Angila Varnes** – Procurement: 25 years
**Deanna Wang** – Procurement: 10 years

**Please note that for newsletter purposes, we are counting from the employee’s actual hire date and Finance and Administration uses a different date for their recognition.**

The following people will receive a milestone award at the Employee Recognition Ceremony on May 9th. All awards are for services rendered as of July 1, 2017.

**Forty Years of Service**

- Lynn Stephens – Procurement

**Thirty Years of Service**

- Mark Caldwell – Property Control
- Kim Collins – Accounts Payable

**Twenty Years of Service**

- Holly Byrd – Accounting
- Annette Evans – Procurement
- Christi Hebert – Payroll

**Ten Years of Service**

- Lena Anglin – Accounts Receivable
- Jessica Bori – Procurement
- Daniel Brugh – Administrative Services
- Chad Cox – Procurement
- John Gayer – Bulldog Print + Design
- Dianna Hall – Directory Assistance
- Tracy McNabb – Student Account Services
- Jackie Walsh – Post Award Accounting

**Five Years of Service**

- Gail Chester – Post Award Accounting
- Terry Fitch – F&A IT Support
- Jing He – Accounts Payable
- Daniel Hunter – Mail & Receiving Services
- Cedric Miller – Post Award Accounting
- Holly Snelling – University Business & Accounting Services

**Enjoy your Jittery Joe’s gift card!**

**YOUR SPARK COMMITTEE**

- Darlene Bradley – Budget Office
- Christy Daniel – Bursar’s Office
- Beth Martin – UBAS
- Tiffany Payne – Bursar’s Office
- Crystal Rogers – UBAS Programs
- Vance Silcott – UBAS Programs
- Holly Snelling – UBAS Programs
- Harold Waters – Bulldog Print + Design
- Ashley Weed – Property Control
- Savannah Whaley – Post-Award Accounting

- busfin.uga.edu/spark

**Treasure Hunt!**

Get your sleuthing skills ready to play this month’s Treasure Hunt! To play, just find all the hidden flowers in the newsletter, then submit the correct answer via e-mail to spark-comm@uga.edu by May 16, 2018. Up to 3 winners will be chosen to receive a prize. Julie’s shirt doesn’t count!

Congratulations to Julie Hawkins in Budgets, Deedy Stroberg - Bursar and Treasury Services & Crystal Alewine - Payroll for winning last month’s treasure hunt!

**An Interview with Kim Collins**

Q. Tell us a little bit about yourself...

A. I’ve been married (Robin Collins) for 33 years and we live in Colbert, GA. We have one son (Kenny Collins), a daughter-in-law (Jenna Collins) and the most beautiful 17 month old granddaughter in the world (Kaylee Collins)! I am fortunate to have both parents (Johnny & Patsy Doster) to enjoy life with both! I love every minute I share with my family – especially Kaylee! My favorite things to do are: Super Late Model Dirt Track Racing (watching my son race & helping with the race team whether it be changing a tire, cooking for the team or keeping up with the times – yes I change tires on the race car lol), go to the beach and Disney World. Being featured in a “Morn” article in a national dirt track racing magazine (Dirt Late Model Magazine) along with 2 other racing moms was exciting because there are thousands of racing moms and I was one of three featured. I also love to cook!

Q. How did you come to work for UGA?

A. In 1987, my husband and I were moving back to the Athens area. The bank I previously worked for didn’t have any openings. A friend of mine, Michele Poole, was working in Accounts Payable and told me about a vacant position so I applied for it. I interviewed for the position and received an offer the same day. It was a Clerk II position with an annual salary of $4,048 ($4,729 per hour). It was in the Check Request Section of Accounts Payable paying hourly individuals and the Law Library payments.

Q. What life lessons have you learned here?

A. You get what you put in it and hard work pays off. Accounts Payable has always had a family atmosphere and I’ve never seriously thought about transferring or leaving UGA. I’ve learned that some days are a lot harder than others and always expect the unexpected. Treat people like you would like to be treated. A cheerful attitude and good customer services goes a long way when dealing with people. I’ve said many times referring to other people when talking to them they need to attend “The Holley Schramski School of Customer Service” so I try to always remember that when dealing with others!

Q. What is your favorite part about your job?

A. The people – hands down - my favorite thing about my work. I love the family atmosphere in AP and have been fortunate to have awesome supervisors and managers in AP. I’ve always took pride in the fact that I work for UGA also. I love the feeling that I’ve accomplished something (it may not be what I had planned for that day but it was something) at the end of the day. I love our beautiful campus also.

I thank God for my family every day and believe that with him all things are possible. The late Coach Billy Henderson drilled into my head “It Can Be Done” while I was a football manager at Clarke Central High School and I live by that today. I always said that I was retiring on my 30th anniversary date….here I am over 31 years and still going. I may retire one day if OneSourcePeopleSoft 9.2 don’t kill me first hahah! I also find it interesting that my great-grandfather worked in this building prior to his retirement and before UGA owned the building.
The University of Georgia held its first Staff Resources Fair on Wednesday, March 14, in the Grand Hall at the Tate Student Center.

The Staff Resources Fair provided a valuable way to connect University Staff and Faculty to available resources and opportunities within the University community. Fifty-four on and off-campus units were able to engage with the over 700 staff and faculty at the fair. The overall feedback was positive, with Faith Bridges, from Sponsored Projects Administration, declaring, “It was awesome!” An exhibitor commented, “I had wonderful interactions with attendees. I got many questions and had lots of good conversations with people during the event.”

Sponsorships were provided through the Office of the President, Office of the Vice President for Finance and Administration, Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, Office of Institutional Diversity, UGA Dining Services, UGA Parking Services, Bulldog Print + Design and USG Well-Being. “I was delighted to have the opportunity to work with our Steering Committee, Staff Council and Finance and Administration Staff Representative Group on this project. I would like to particularly acknowledge the outstanding efforts from our Steering Committee: Co-Chair, Marie Mize, Randolph Carter, Brenda Keen, Kiz Adams, Taylor West and Kasey Strawder”, stated Debi Chandler, Dining Services.

Learn more about this event at news.uga.edu
Asian/Pacific American and Jewish American Heritage Month

The roots of Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month can be traced back to 1976, when Jeanie Jew, president of the Organization of Chinese American Women, contacted government officials in response to the lack of Asian/Pacific representation in the U.S. bicentennial celebrations that same year. The observance began in 1979 as Asian Heritage Week, established by congressional proclamation. In May 1990, the holiday was expanded further when President George Bush signed a proclamation making it month-long for that year. On October 23, 1992, Bush signed legislation designating May of every year Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month.

The month of May was chosen to commemorate two significant events in history: the first Japanese immigrants coming to the United States on May 7, 1843, and the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. The diversity and common experiences of the many ethnic groups are celebrated each year during Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month with numerous community festivals as well as government-sponsored activities.

Jewish American Heritage Month was proclaimed by President George W. Bush on April 20, 2006. The President said, “We celebrate the rich history of the Jewish people in America and honor the great contributions they have made to our country.” The month of May was chosen due to the highly successful celebration of the 350th Anniversary of American Jewish History in May 2004.

Leading the way in the country’s implementation of this annual celebration is the Jewish American Heritage Month Coalition, formed in March 2007 and convened by United Jewish Communities, the Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives and the American Jewish Historical Society. Let us all celebrate Jewish Americans who have helped weave the fabric of American history, culture, and society.

Asian/Pacific American and Jewish American Heritage Month

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YOUR SPARK COMMITTEE

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