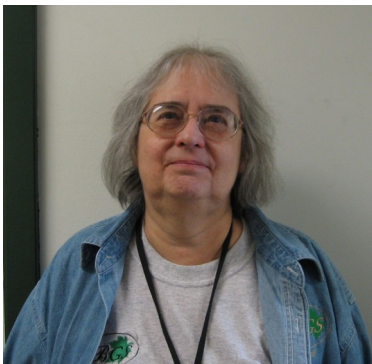




## Employees Spotlight



**Meet...**

Eyvette  
Santamore

Eyvette has worked with the State of Vermont for 22 years. She started with the Vermont State Hospital as a Custodian I, until 2004 when BGS took over the hospitals custodial staff. She continues working at the Hospital and is currently a Custodian III.

Eyvette is from North Duxbury and currently resides in Waterbury and has lived in the area her whole life. She is the mother of one daughter who currently resides with her as well as Eyvette's sister. While not working, Eyvette enjoys curling up with a good book, doing embroidery, selling Avon, and spending time with her daughter in trips to Massachusetts to go sailing and shopping. Eyvette is more of a Spring/Fall and Summer person rather than Winter.

Eyvette is the "party planner" for her co-workers; she enjoys planning parties for birthdays, and celebrations of all sorts for co-workers and their families. The community is also thankful for Eyvette's kind heart, as she is an involved resident with the Women's Auxiliary Post 59.

Eyvette is greatly appreciated by BGS and the Vermont State Hospital for her excellent customer service, and for consistently doing a great job.



**And...**

Brian  
Larrabee

Brian is a maintenance mechanic for the Waterbury Complex. Brian's assigned area is the north end of the complex that includes the Secretary of Human Services office, the State Colleges' Chancellors' office, Vermont Interactive TV, the Vermont State Credit Union, and the Summit Learning Center. Brian has worked for the department since 1981. Fortunately for BGS, Brian is a workaholic and a perfectionist. He has a very good way with people and he is well regarded by the clients he serves. Brian will take on any job he is given and never turns down a request to come in to work. Brian is a great asset to the Central Region.

Laurie Hurlburt (AHS Secretary's office) says, "Brian is a hard working, dedicated employee. He's a perfectionist and a friend to many here at AHS, and by the way, you can't take him to another area."

Brian lives in Waterbury with his wife Rhonda and their two cats. Brian's great love is his 3 year old granddaughter Bobo. He is an avid sports fan and spends a lot of time traveling to games and supporting local teams. He is an excellent photographer and works with the schools and sports clubs shooting pictures of games and tournament activities. Brian puts together plaques and team photos often times at no cost to the teams or the athletes.

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## BGS News

WORKING TOGETHER TO SERVE VERMONT

### Commissioner's Corner

Hello BGS!

As I write this article we are expecting the legislative session to come to a close tomorrow. With this in mind and with so many issues out there that affect you as BGS employees and Vermonters, I wanted to use this article to explain to you the various decisions that are being made. However, due to a variety of reasons many decisions are still up in the air on this next to the last day of the legislative session. The legislature is moving forward with a budget bill that dismisses many of the Governor's requirements and the Governor may veto the bill. There are still no answers to the many questions I know are out there.

So, what can I tell you? I can state that BGS has weathered the cuts thus far fairly well. As stated in my last newsletter, our Information Center Division is the only place that BGS took significant cuts. Six people have been laid off to date in the Info Center program. Going forward another six BGS people from a variety of BGS Divisions have seen or could see RIF paperwork. The total at this point would be 12 BGS employees that need to find employment from the downsizing requirements that started last summer. There are no other cuts or RIF requirements at this point.

I would like to take a moment to make clear that the 12 people who have, or could lose their jobs, served Vermont very well and their layoffs have nothing to do with their performance or service to our State. These are difficult times and many very good people are being affected and hurt.

The last thing I want to mention is that I will be getting out to see all of you beginning next week in St Albans. I will be visiting facilities and setting aside time to have a "town meeting" in each of your areas. Please attend these meetings if you can so that we can talk over the affects and impacts of the economy on BGS.

Thanks for all that you do and I hope to meet with each of you soon.

Gerry



### Teri Berube nominated as Public Service Recognition Employee for 2009

Teri is one of those unsung heroes to whom everyone turns when they need something done. It can be easy to put complicated or unfamiliar issues on the back burner, but Teri never

hesitates to dive in, figure out what needs to be done, and make sure it happens. Whether it's ice in a parking lot, mice in a basement, or legal disputes related to lease terms, Teri sticks with an issue until it's fixed.

The following comments, recently received from a customer, say it well: "I am sure you know this already, but Teri does an excellent job representing BGS at these meetings and even when a meeting is not happening she is available should any issues come up. I had the pleasure of working with Teri some years ago when I worked for PATH/Social Welfare and even then she walked on water. I was happy when Allen brought her to the first meeting and she has done an outstanding job ever since."

Teri was recognized on May 6, 2009 at the PSR event.

### Human Resources...We moved!

On Friday, April 17th the Human Resources staff moved to a new office space. Since we are now responsible for the HR services for more departments than just BGS this move will put us in a more central location with the Agency of Administration Human Resources.

Our phone numbers and e-mail address will remain the same, and of course, we will still be just as available as always. Our new offices are located at 144 State Street. We hope you will stop by and see us.



## BGS News

WORKING TOGETHER TO SERVE VERMONT

### BGS works with DII on an energy project

BGS is participating in a pilot project with DII that will save energy and assist IT staff with computer maintenance. The idea of PC Power Management came from two different areas of BGS, BGS IT was looking at a way to make computer maintenance more accessible and BGS entered into a performance contract that identified a need to control the computers' energy use. This resulted in both areas sitting at the same table with DII and moving the project forward as a pilot for DII. Currently, about 200 BGS computers are being used to establish a baseline which will show how much electricity the computers use normally. Once the baseline is established, the project will be implemented and the savings will be tracked in reports. The reports will be used to show the other agencies in the state the benefits of using PC Power Management. Efficiency Vermont has also offered to assist in the costs for adding PC Power Management to other agencies' computer systems. The IT staff is working with the PC Power Management vendors to receive training on the tracking portion of the project. The pilot project is estimated to be completed by the end of May. ~ Angela Leclerc, BGS IT

#### New Employees:

- DAVID FORBEL—CUSTODIAN I, WATERBURY, HIRED 3/30/09
- DONA BOSLEY— SR. PURCHASING AGENT, MONTPELIER, HIRED 5/11/09
- JOE HARRIS— FINANCIAL MGR III, MONTPELIER, HIRED 5/11/09
- ANDREW LEICHER— WC CLAIMS AJUSTER, MONTPELIER, HIRED 5/11/09

#### Leaving BGS:

- CLEO ALEXANDER—SECURITY GUARD, RUTLAND, RESIGNED 2/13/09
- WILLIAM OTIS—CUSTODIAN I, MONTPELIER, RESIGNED 2/14/09
- PHILLIP THOMPSON—INFO CENTER REP, GEORGIA, RETIRED 2/1/09
- THEODORE HOPPE—INFO CENTER REP, RANDOLPH, RETIRED 3/21/09

### PROTECT YOUR HEARING

Noise is one of the most common causes of hearing loss, and one of the most common occupational illnesses in the United States. Approximately 30 million Americans are exposed to dangerous noise levels each day. The effects of noise on hearing are often underestimated because the damage takes place so gradually. A single shot from a shotgun, experienced at close range, may permanently damage your hearing in an instant. Repeated exposures to loud machinery may, over an extended period of time, present serious risks to human hearing.

Workplace Safety has put together the following safety tips; with these tips you can reduce your risk of hearing loss.

#### Some of the warning signs of the presence of or exposure to hazardous noise are as follows:

- You can't hear someone three feet away
- You have pain in your ears after leaving a noisy area
- You hear ringing or buzzing (tinnitus) in your ears immediately after exposure to noise
- You suddenly have difficulty understanding speech after exposure to noise; you can hear people talking but you cannot understand them.

#### What You Can Do to Protect Your Hearing

- Limit exposure time to noisy activities.
- Wear hearing protection, such as foam or silicone plugs or muffs.
- At home, turn down the volume on the television, radio, stereos and walkmans.
- Wear ear plugs or muffs when using loud equipment i.e. lawn mowers etc.,
- Buy quieter products (compare dB ratings – the smaller the better).
- Reduce the number of noisy appliances running at the same time in your personal environment.
- Avoid medications that can be dangerous to your hearing.



**Contact Workplace Safety if you have a concern regarding noise exposure in your workplace.**