

THE BEACON

Beacon Technologies Quarterly Newsletter



Employee Success Story

Bill Gross, Senior Software Engineering Consultant, Georgia Pacific

Software development is the second chapter of Bill's career. Bill went to school to be a chemist. He started out working for General Motors as an analytical chemist and then an environmental engineer. GM later found itself needing more software engineers than they could hire. They offered current employees the chance to go to school full-time for one semester to fill the need. Bill was already writing programs to make his job more manageable, so he jumped at the chance, was accepted, and has been developing software ever since. Software has taken him to other companies and, most recently, into consulting.

Favorite Project

Bill's favorite project is always the one he's currently working on. Each assignment is an opportunity to grow in experience, learn new skills and technologies, and meet new people. Bill is presently working at Georgia-Pacific in Green Bay. Some of the .NET code he works on is pretty old, but this assignment has given him SQL Server and Oracle experience that he hadn't had previously. Bill believes that he and Beacon Technologies have been solving problems and delivering excellent value to the customer. To him, that's the most fulfilling thing of all!

Family

Bill and his wife, Mary, have four grown children and a yellow lab. They live in Oostburg, near Sheboygan, which is "centrally located, and close to nothing at all."

Hobbies

Bill loves the outdoors. Hiking, camping, and biking are his favorite activities. Bill spends most of his free time as a beekeeper; if you're not careful, he will tell you more about bees than you ever wanted to know! He and Mary enjoy socializing and selling honey at local farm markets.

Interesting Fact

Two years ago, Bill became a runner. He now runs in two or three 5K's each year.



Trivia

In our last newsletter we asked what client's tagline is "World's Greatest Aviation Celebration?" Four people responded correctly with the answer of EAA AirVenture. The winner drawn at random for the gift card this quarter is Barbara Ferro. The question for this next quarter is, "what was the last business to reside where Beacon's current Appleton office is?" Respond to Keegan O'Brien at kobrien@beacontechinc.com and one person with the correct answer will win a \$25 Amazon gift card.

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Northeast Wisconsin Team - Favorite Movies

News & Reminders



Appleton Holiday Party

Beacon will host our annual holiday party for our Northeast Wisconsin consultants and their significant others on Thursday, January 9th from 5:30 PM - 9 PM at Fratellos in Appleton. Don't forget to RSVP to Keegan O'Brien if you plan to attend.

Health Insurance Open Enrollment

Open enrollment for Beacon Health Insurance will be Feb 3 - 14, 2020 and HR Director, Kristen Suttle-Ebert, will be sending out an email with instructions and forms in late January to employees.

Referrals

We've got several openings and welcome your referrals. Remember, if you refer a candidate to Beacon, they are hired and stay with us for at least 90 days, Beacon will pay you \$1000 for the referral!

Madison Holiday Party

The Beacon team welcomed employees and their significant others to Capital Brewery in Middleton on Thursday, December 12th for the annual Beacon Holiday Party. Thank you to everyone that made it and we hope to see all of you back next year!



Some photos from our Holiday Party in Madison this December. See more photos on the Employee Portal or Facebook!



Travis Crowe,
Software Engineer / Scrum Master



Pat Heideman,
Software Architect & Engineer



Keegan O'Brien,
Recruiter / Marketing Manager



Eric Oehlhafen,
Sr. Account Executive



Kevin Brey,
Software Engineer

Tom Morley,
Scrum Master / Project Manager



Chris Shouts,
Senior Software Engineer



Matt Stangel,
Senior Software Engineer



Mat Gutschow,
Software Engineer



Mike Acord,
Senior Full-Stack Software Engineer



Zach Zoeller,
Software Engineer



Jacob Parma,
Software Architect / Engineer



Dave Carew,
Project Manager



Tom Brey,
Sr. Account Executive



CLICK ON MOVIES FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT EACH

Employee Anniversaries

January

- Denise Olson - 12 years
- David Wanta - 6 years
- Jarod Overesch - 4 years
- Delight Oelerich - 3 years
- Srujan Reddy Pindi - 1 year
- Kimberly Suchla - 1 year

February

- William Sweeney - 4 years
- William Neill - 3 years
- Chris Shouts - 2 years
- Greene Sinha - 2 years
- Patrick Tsai - 2 years
- Kevin Brey - 1 year
- David Carew - 1 year
- Barbara Ferro - 1 year

March

- Shakeel Mohammed - 7 years
- Mark Schilling - 5 years
- Mathew Gutschow - 2 years
- Matthew Nelson - 2 years
- Thomas Rupe - 2 years
- Michael DeBot - 1 year
- Angelito Dominguez - 1 year
- Luke Janssen - 1 year
- Rose Kozma - 1 year
- Vanessa Thomas - 1 year



Year End Notes from Jean Burke, Accounting Manager

Verify Information

Please take a moment to verify that your general information (address, SSN, etc.) is accurate in your PayChex Flex account. If a correction is needed, please let us know ASAP. While you are allowed to update information yourself, changes need to be updated in multiple places outside of PayChex Flex, so it is important to let us know as well. If you are a C2C consultant, this does not apply to you.

2019 Form W-2 for Employees

Hard copy W-2's will not be mailed out for 2019. You will get your W-2 from your PayChex Flex account. W-2's are required to be provided to you by 1/31/2020, but the service indicates that the forms are usually available on Flex by mid-January.

2019 Form 1099 for C2C Consultants

The Form 1099 will be provided to you by 1/31/2020. If possible, Jean will provide the form electronically, but it is likely that some will need to be mailed. Please let Jean know if you have questions.

New Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Certificate

The long awaited, revised Form W-4 to accommodate changes as a result of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which went into effect in 1/1/2018, has finally been released.

The new 2020 Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Certificate, is very different from previous versions. The IRS is not requiring that everyone complete a revised Form W-4 for tax year 2020. Withholding tables have been designed to work with both the new and prior year forms. However, anyone wanting to make a change to their federal withholdings and all new employees will be required to use the new form as of 1/1/2020.

The IRS is recommending that everyone perform a "paycheck checkup" to help you decide if you should adjust your current withholding. To do this, you can use the IRS's Tax Withholding Estimator found here: <https://apps.irs.gov/app/tax-withholding-estimator>.

The new form along with instructions can be found here: <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw4.pdf>. If you feel you need to submit a new W-4, please use the link above to obtain the form or contact Kelsey Kelley. Once completed, return the form to Kelsey.

Social Security

The social security wage base has been increased to \$137,700 for 2020. There is no limit for Medicare Tax withholdings. Rates remain the same at 6.2% for Social Security and 1.45% for Medicare. Wages in excess of \$200,000 will be subject to an extra .9% Medicare Tax withholding.

401k

The 401k deferral limit for 2020 has been raised to \$19,500. Additionally, "catch up" contribution limits for individuals over age 50 has been raised to \$6,500. Please let us know if you want to adjust your 401k deferral amounts for 2020.

Upcoming Events

Note: Click on logos or name for more details.

MADISON

Arts/Culture



Sports



Music



Tech



MILWAUKEE

Arts/Culture



Sports



Music



Tech



FOX CITIES / GREEN BAY / OSHKOSH

Arts/Culture



Sports



Music



Tech

