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Free Coffee Day!

To celebrate those employees with birthdays in December (see Birthdays on page 3), there will be free coffee from the vending machine starting early AM on Monday, December 19 through early AM Wednesday, December 21. ENJOY!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL!

Improvement Idea Winner By Scott Wagner, Plant Mgr.

Congratulations to **Trevor Levonski, Furnace Operator, third shift**, for being the Improvement Idea winner for November. There were nine improvement ideas in November. In addition to Trevor's winning idea, **Ray Souder** submitted six ideas, and **Chris Kent** and **Derek McAlarney** submitted one idea each. Thank you all for letting us know your ideas for improvement here at Rex.



Trevor's improvement idea is to make a fixture that would be attached to 356 to hold the second rack much like the fixture that is currently attached to 381 furnace to hold 351's rack. This would improve safety and standardization.

The next Improvement Idea spin will be held on Monday, December 19 at 3:10 pm in the Induction area. Trevor will be drawing the name of one employee for the "Monthly Employee Appreciation" spin. Come to the spin to see if your name is chosen. Then you will be the lucky person taking a spin on the Rex Wheel of Chance.

Can you think of an idea for an improvement here at Rex? Just write it down on a piece of paper and drop it into the box outside the Production office door. You could be the next winner taking a spin on the Rex Wheel of Chance.

**DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER IMPROVEMENT IDEAS
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 14, 9 A.M.**

Monthly Winners

By Scott Wagner, Plant Manager



Our Improvement Idea winner for October was **Jim Koester, Supervisor, third shift**. Jim won \$250 on his spin. Besides Jim's winning idea, there were five other Improvement Ideas submitted in October **Chris Kent, Mike Ludwig, Frank Rapine, Greg Smith** and **Ray Souder** submitted one idea each. They all received a "Good Idea" pin and \$5 lottery ticket.

Jim Koester, is the October Improvement Idea winner. He is congratulated by Scott Wagner, Plant Manager.



The lucky winner of "Monthly Employee Appreciation" was **Sarah Mansueti**, who won a \$100 reward on her spin. Five names were drawn from a bucket that contained the names of all Rex employees. **Dave Brough, Jim Brough, Greg Bruno, Theresa Scargill, and Greg Smith** each received a \$5 instant lottery ticket. **Mike Ludwig** was the Rex Riddle winner and he, too, received a \$5 lottery ticket. Employees celebrating anniversaries received their anniversary gifts from Scott Wagner, Plant Manager.

Sarah Mansueti won Monthly Employee Appreciation. Scott congratulates her.



Employees celebrating anniversaries are congratulated by Scott Wagner. From left: Fred Cherezov (9 yrs), Jim Forbes (19 yrs), Vindon Griffin (13 yrs), and Derek McAlarney (5 yrs). Art Hurt (9 yrs) is also celebrating but not pictured.



Scott congratulates employees who submitted Improvement Ideas in November. Top from left: Mike Ludwig and Frank Rapine. Bottom from left: Greg Smith and Ray Souder. Chris Kent is not pictured.



Lottery ticket winners receive their ticket from Scott: From left: Greg Smith and Greg Bruno. Other winners not pictured are: Dave Brough, Jim Brough, and Theresa Scargill.



Each quarter, employees with perfect attendance are acknowledged. Scott congratulates Keith Bannon who had perfect attendance, Terry Copenhaver, Mike Ludwig, Marie Monje, and Don Wiggins also had perfect attendance.



Safely Handling the CO2 System

By Brandon Reynolds, Maintenance Manager



Two CO2 Tanks



Regulator



Two ball valves

We use the CO2 System on the 100 and 300 lines to suppress fires that occur when hot loads are quenched in oil. There is a button to start and stop the flow of CO2 at 116 and 356 oil tanks. When started, the flow of CO2 sprays from nozzles mounted on the tanks to blanket the top of the oil with CO2 to starve the fire of oxygen. Once the fire is out, you can stop the flow of CO2.

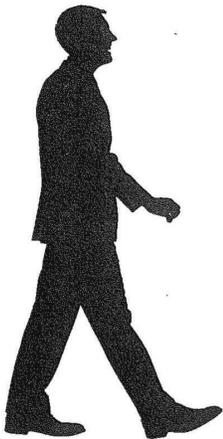
Changing CO2 tanks

The tanks for the CO2 system are located behind the 320 box furnace. If the flow of CO2 stops, go over to the tanks and switch from the one that is empty to the one that is full. Do this by first turning **off** the ball valve and the tank valve on the tank that is currently on, then turn **on** the ball valve and the tank valve for the other tank. **Never turn on both tanks at the same time.**

Above the tanks is a regulator that is set at 30 PSI, and never needs to be adjusted. Once you switch tanks, please notify your supervisor so he can have the empty tank switched out by maintenance.

Winter lessons: How to Walk on Ice

WRONG WAY



During normal walking, body weight is supported through the stride, including the heel strike and toe push off. Walking this way on ice is dangerous and could result in slipping and falling.

RIGHT WAY



To walk on ice: Bend slightly and spread your feet out to lower and increase your center of gravity, take small steps or shuffle, lean forward slightly, and go slowly. In short, walk like a penguin.

Winter Walking Tips

- In cold temperatures, assume all wet areas are icy.
- Wear foot wear that provides traction.
- Walk in designated walkways; ice and snow may be more prevalent on unused shortcuts.
- Keep your hands and arms free to help with balance.
- Concentrate on walking; don't multi-task.





Employees celebrating a birthday in December are listed below. Let's wish them a happy day.

- 6 Sharlrey Dubisette
- 25 Yao Kangni Soukpe
- 26 Maria Monje

REX RIDDLE #65

I am a five-letter word — a fruit. If you remove my 1st letter, I become a crime. If you remove my 1st and 2nd letters, I become an animal. If you remove my 1st and last letter, I become a form of popular music.

What am I?

To submit your guess for The Rex Riddle, take a slip out of the folder in the rack in the Production Office, fill it out, and drop it in the box outside of the Production Office door. Guesses will be taken until the morning of the monthly spin. One name will be drawn from all the correct answers to receive a \$5 instant lottery ticket.

Answer to last month's riddle:

A 30-foot building was on fire. A man jumped out of a window and there was nothing under him to catch him. Yet nothing happened to him. How is this possible?

Answer: He was on the first floor

Yearly Work Anniversaries

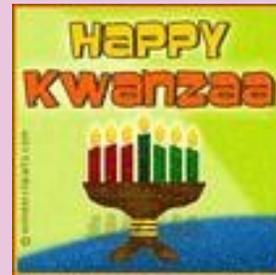
The following employees are celebrating their Work anniversaries in December:

Over 10 Years

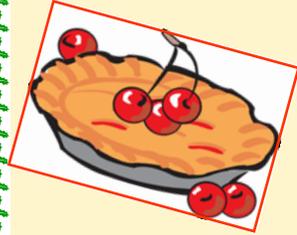
Tom Felder (31 yrs)

Maria Monje (17 yrs)

You will receive your annual gift at the monthly spin.



HOLIDAY GOODIES EXCHANGE



The Holiday Goodies Exchange will take place on Monday, December 19 and Tuesday, December 20 in the employee lunch room. Please join us for this annual sharing of good things to eat. Bring your treat at the start of your shift and check out what others have brought to share.

Whether you bake it or buy it, no matter. Whatever you chose will be appreciated and enjoyed. There will be free hot beverages from the vending machine both days.

Come share in the Good Will and Good Treats!



HOLIDAY HA HA'S



How come you never hear anything about the 10th reindeer Olive? *Because "Olive the other reindeer, used to laugh and call him names!"*

*

What's red and white and falls down the chimney? *Santa Klutz!*

*

What did the reindeer say before launching into his comedy routine? *This will sleigh you.*

*

One Christmas, my grandfather gave me a box of broken glass. He gave my brother a box of Band-Aids and said, *"You two share."* **Steven Wright** comedian

*

Alex was five; all his Christmas presents were always signed, 'from Father Christmas.' A little while after Alex had opened all his presents on Christmas morning, his parents became aware that he was looking quite down in the mouth for no obvious reason.

'What's the matter?' his father asked. Alex replied slowly, *'I really hoped that you and Mummy would give me something for Christmas.'*

*

One Christmas, Joe and Peter built a skating rink in the middle of a field. A shepherd leading his flock decided to take a shortcut across the rink. The sheep, however, were afraid of the ice and wouldn't cross it. Desperate, the shepherd began tugging them to the other side.

'Look at that,' remarked Peter to Joe, 'That guy is trying to pull the wool over our ice!'

What do vampires put on their holiday turkey? *GRAVE-y*

*

Which of Santa's reindeer has bad manners? *RUDE-olph*

*

What do you get when you cross an apple and a Christmas tree? *Pineapple*

*

What do snowmen eat for breakfast? *Frosted Flakes*

*

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid-December.

Female reindeer retain their antlers till after they give birth in the spring. Therefore, according to every historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, every single one of them, from Rudolph to Blitzen, had to be a girl.

*

Just before Christmas, two brothers were spending the night at their Grandma's house. At bed time, they knelt down to say their prayers. One boy said in a loud voice, "Dear Lord, please ask Santa Claus to bring me a telescope and a new bike."

His older brother said, "Why are you shouting? God isn't deaf." *'I know,' said his brother, 'but Grandma is.'*

