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Free Coffee Day!

To celebrate those employees with birthdays in January see Birthdays on page 3), there will be *free coffee* from the vending machine starting early AM on January 25 through early AM on January 26

ENJOY! HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL!

Improvement Idea Winner By Scott Wagner, Plant Mgr.

Congratulations to Sarah Mansuetti, Director of Quality Assurance, for being the Improvement Idea winner for December. There were five improvement ideas submitted in December. In addition to Sarah's winning idea, Terry Copenhaver, Chris Kent, Trevor Levonski, and Ray Souder submitted one idea each. Thank you all for letting us know your ideas for improvement here at Rex.



Sarah's idea is to create a tool to measure the flatness of a basket. When looking at customer parts where the racking process is critical and "flat" baskets are required, this tool can be easily used by operators to check their baskets prior to racking. The idea is to take a piece of sheet or plate that is cut into a straight edge. It should be 34" long and at a width and height easy to use and sturdy enough not to bend. The reason for 34" -- this allows for checking the width and the length. There should be some type of gauge to mark acceptable vs. unacceptable. This gauge could be a pin that uses gravity to drop to the bottom of the basket and be painted so that once it drops past a certain point, it would be a visual indication of flatness.

The next Improvement Idea spin will be held on Monday, January 25 at 3:10 pm in the Induction area. Sarah 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 JANUARY IMPROVEMENT IDEAS
Wednesday, January 20, 2016, noon

Monthly Winners

By Scott Wagner, Plant Manager

Our Improvement Idea winner for November was **Frank Rapine**, Pyrometry Technician. Frank won a \$250 award on his spin. There were eight Improvement Ideas submitted in November. In addition to Frank's winning idea, **Ray Souder** submitted three ideas, and **Ricky Banyai**, **Jim Forbes**, **Rob Forbes**, and **Nancy Viola**, submitted one idea each. They all received a "Thank You" pin and \$5 lottery ticket.



Top (l-r) Ricky Banyai, Ray Souder, bottom (l-r): Rob Forbes, Nancy Viola are congratulated by Greg Bruno, Production Manager, for submitting Improvement ideas in November.

The lucky winner of "Monthly Employee Appreciation" was **Tom Felder** who won a \$75 reward on his spin. Five names were drawn from a bucket that contained the names of all Rex employees. **Greg Bruno**, **Sid Heflin**, **Brandon Reynolds**, **Greg Smith**, and **Jim Stewart** each received a \$5 Instant lottery ticket. **Jim Forbes** was the **Rex Riddle** winner and he, too, received a \$5 lottery ticket. Several employees at the spin were celebrating an anniversary and received an anniversary gift from Greg Bruno, Production Manager.



Frank Rapine, November Improvement Idea winner, is congratulated by Greg Bruno, Production Manager.



Tom Felder, Monthly Employee Appreciation Winner, is congratulated by Greg Bruno.

For refreshments, we all enjoyed sharing the Holiday Goodies Exchange bounty and there was free coffee and sodas for everyone. Please come to next month's spin to see if your name is the one picked to be the Monthly Employee Appreciation winner. Then you will have an opportunity to take a spin on the Rex Wheel of Chance.



Tom Felder (30 yrs) and Maria Monje (16 yrs) receive their anniversary gifts from Greg Bruno.



Lottery ticket winners (from left): Greg Smith, Brandon Reynolds, and Sid Heflin are congratulated by Greg Bruno. Greg's name was also pulled as was Jim Stewart's.



ABOVE AND BEYOND

By Greg Bruno, Production Manager



Tom Felder has done a great job for many years keeping the work space at Inspection organized and clean. He makes sure things are properly labeled and that all the tools and materials the Inspectors need to do their job have a home. If they don't, he makes sure to find them a place. We want to thank Tom for his housekeeping efforts, as this makes everyone's day at Inspection run more smoothly.

BEAUTY AND DANGER OF ICICLES

As much as we grumble about the winter and the inconvenience of snow and ice storms, it can be truly beautiful when everything is covered in white and the sun's rays sparkle off icicles,

Iceicles form during bright, sunny, but subfreezing weather, when ice or snow melted by sunlight or some other heat source (such as a poorly insulated building), refreezes as it drips under exposed conditions. Over time continued water runoff will cause the icicle to grow. Another set of conditions is during ice storms, when rain falling in air slightly below freezing slowly accumulates on twigs, leaves, and wires, etc. Icicles also form where water seeps out of or drips off vertical surfaces such as road cuts or cliffs.

As pretty and fascinating as they appear, icicles that hang from an object or building may fall and cause injury and/or damage to whomever or whatever is below them. These ice deposits are heavy spikes. If enough icicles form on an object, the weight of the ice can severely damage the structural integrity of the object or building and may cause severe breakage. Large icicles falling from cliffs pose danger to cars traveling on highways.

So the safety tip regarding icicles...admire them from a distance. Don't stand under them and if you are attempting to knock them down...get out of the way and be sure your car or any other dentable objects aren't below the falling icicles.





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

- 8 Michael Sweney
- 9 Rob Forbes
- 10 Keith Bannon
- 12 Richard Harris
- 13 Ricky Banyai
- 15 Frank Rapine
- 25 Ray DeHaven

Yearly Work Anniversaries

The following employees are celebrating their Work anniversaries in **January**

1 to 5 Years

Joseph Carr (3 yrs)

Chris Kent (4 yrs)

6 to 10 Years

Ray DeHaven (9 yrs)

Sharley Dubisette (9 yrs)

Frank Rapine (11 yrs)

Over 10 Years

Mike Santiago (18 yrs)

David Brough (42 yrs)

You will receive your annual gift at the monthly spin.



DID YOU KNOW THIS ABOUT APPLES?

Whether apples are eaten as a snack, baked into crumbles, pies, or sauces, they are always a popular winter fruit. Here are a few fun facts about apples that you can share with family and friends.



- A survey by the American Pie Council and Crisco found that apple pie is the favorite flavor among one out of four Americans. Two pounds of apples make one 9-inch pie.
- The health benefits of apples and apple products were first recorded as early as medieval times, giving rise to the old English saying "Ate an apfel avore gwain to bed Makes the doctor beg his bread" and its more recent variation, "An apple a day keeps the doctor away."
- Apples come in all shades of reds, greens, yellows. 2500 varieties of apples are grown in the United States. 7500 varieties of apples are grown throughout the world
- The average person eats 65 apples per year. One medium apple contains 80 calories. Apples float because 25% of their volume is air.
- Apple trees don't bear their first fruit until they are four or five years old.



REX RIDDLE 54?

Most of us drink it or use it in some way every day. If we purchased 100 pounds of it, it would contain approximately 87 pounds of water, 4 pounds of fat, 4 pounds of casein, ash and albumin and 5 pounds of sugar.

What is it?

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 bookkeeper noticed there were two consecutive double letters in the word *balloon*. She found other examples such as *woolly* and *spittoon*. Then she tried to think of a word with three consecutive pairs of double letters. She couldn't think of any. Can you?

Yum Yum — Holiday Goodie Exchange



Nancy Viola,
HR Administrator



Sid Heflin
Project Engineer



Derek McAlarney
Inspector



Frank Rapine
Pyrometry Technician



Brandon Reynolds,
Maintenance Manager

This is not the time of year to watch your diet...
 too much temptation! That certainly was the
 case on December 14 and 15 during our Holiday
 Goodies Exchange. A wide assortment of cakes,
 cookies, pies, and other desserts filled the tables.
 Mouthwatering aromas of crockpot delicacies
 filled the air. The top off was the bountiful
 sandwich and salad platters generously
 supplied to Rex employees from Windover
 Fabricators. There was free soda and coffee on
 both days. A nice spread for all to enjoy. Here
 are photos of a few of the revelers.



Greg Smith
Furnace Operator



Vindon Griffin
Customer Service Technician



Dave Brough, Technical R&D Manager (left)
Adrian Rivera, Utility Worker



Mike Sweney
Controller



Tim Plaugher
Customer Service Rep



From left: Mike Evans, Furnace Operator, Milton Fedd, Utility
Worker, Sharley Dubisette, Furnace Operator,
and Mike Ludwig, Maintenance "A"



Ray Souder
Material Handler



Keith Bannon
Maintenance "A"