# The ReX Files

Volume 14, Issue 7

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### Free Coffee Day!

To celebrate those employees with Birthdays in July (see Birthday Listing on page 3), there will be *free coffee* from the vending machine starting early AM on July 22nd through early AM on July 23rd. ENJOY!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL!

### Newsletter

July 2013

### Improvement Idea Winner By Scott Wagner, Plant Mgr.

**Congratulations** to **Chuba Blaze**, a Furnace Operator on second shift, for being the improvement Idea winner for the month of June.

Chuba's idea is to install hand railings on 110 furnace in the area where the shim port is located. We are processing jobs that require more shims to be done. The frequency of having to climb up and down has increased. This is a very good idea.



There was a grand total of <u>14</u> improvement ideas submitted in the month of June. Others contributing ideas were **Greg Bruno** and **Ray DeHaven** 

with 2 ideas each, and Robert Forbes, Mike Townsend, Greg Smith, Derek McAlarney, John Moss, Trevor Levonski, Paul Moss, Tom Felder and Lee Holder with 1 idea each. Thank you, everyone, for letting us know your ideas for improvements here at Rex.

The next Improvement Idea spin will be held on Monday, July 22, at 3:10 PM in the Induction area. Chuba will be drawing the name of one lucky employee for the "Employee Appreciation" spin. Maybe it will be you!

Don't forget to write your ideas down on a slip of paper and drop them into the box outside of the Production office. Yours might be the winning idea and you'll have an opportunity to take a spin on the Rex Wheel of Chance!

### **Monthly Winners**

### By Scott Wagner, Plant Mgr.

Our Improvement Idea winner for the month of May was **Brian Wingate**, a Material Handler on first shift. Mike Townsend, Greg Smith, Greg Bruno, and Derek McAlarney, who also put in improvement ideas in May, each received a "Thank You" pin and a \$5 lottery ticket.



Before he took his spin, we had Brian draw a name for the "Monthly Employee Appreciation" reward. That lucky winner was **Paul Moss**, a Maintenance "A" Mechanic. When Paul took his spin, he won a reward of \$75.

Brian drew 5 names from a bucket that contained the names of all Rex employees, and the

winners each received a \$5 instant lottery ticket. Those 5 lucky winners of lottery tickets were Ricky Banyai, John Moss, Sarah Mansuetti, Yao Kangni Soukpe, and Brandon Reynolds.

When Brian took his spin, he won a reward of \$150.

gets ready to take his spin on the Rex Wheel of Manager.

Chance

For refreshments everyone enjoyed an assortment of cookies and free hot beverages from the vending machine.

Try to make it to the spin next month. You could be the lucky employee who is chosen as that month's Employee Appreciation winner. Then it would be **your turn** to take a spin on the Rex Wheel of Chance!

Paul Moss (right), the Employee Appreciation winner, is congratulated by Scott Wagner, Plant Manager.

### Lighthouses



The first known lighthouse—the Pharaohs of Alexandria, Egypt—was completed about 280 B.C. It stood more than 350 feet tall until an earthquake destroyed it in the 1300s.

The world's oldest working lighthouse, La Coruna, stands at the northwest tip of Spain. The Romans built it early in the second century A.D. It's also called the Tower of Hercules.





The first lighthouse in what is now the United States was built on Little Brewster Island at the entrance to Boston Harbor in 1716. The British blew it up in 1776. The replacement tower, dating to 1783, still functions as a navigation aid. Known as Boston Harbor Light, it is the only U.S. lighthouse that is still manned.



The first U.S. lighthouse to use electricity is also the world's most famous lighthouse: the Statue of Liberty in New York

Harbor. From its opening in 1886 until its deactivation as a lighthouse in 1902, its torch carried an electric light that was visible for 24 miles.

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Original Torch

The tallest masonry U.S. lighthouse is the Cape Hatteras Light near Buxton on North Carolina's Outer Banks. It was recently measured at 207.49 feet from the bottom of the foundation (about 10 feet underground) to the top of the spire.





The first lighthouse on the West Coast was the Alcatraz Island Light in San Francisco Bay, completed in 1854. The original tower has been replaced by a 1909-vintage structure.



### Sun Safety

With one in five Americans developing skin cancer, childhood education about sun safety is a vital step toward reducing risk and improving public health. Overexposure to the sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays seriously threatens human health. Besides the immediate effect of sunburn, over time excess UV radiation can cause skin cancer, eye damage, immune system suppression, and premature

aging. About 23 percent of lifetime sun exposure occurs before the age of 18. Learning about sun safety and dangers of sunbeds is the key to reducing the risk of future health problems.

### Water Safety

According to NSC Injury Facts, 3,858 people died in 2008 due to drowning, including swimming and water transport accidents. More than one in five drowning victims are children 14-years-old and younger, and for every child who dies from drowning, another four receive emergency department care for nonfatal submersion injuries. Most drowning and near-drowning incidents happen when a child falls into a pool or is left alone in the bathtub.

### **Surviving the Hot Weather**

Heat illness includes a range of disorders that result when your body is exposed to more heat than it can handle. Anybody not accustomed to hot weather is at risk of suffering from heatstroke (the most serious and life-threatening heat-related illness) as well as heat exhaustion and heat cramps.

### **Impaired Driving**

In 2010, there were 10,228 deaths in crashes involving a driver with a BAC of .08 or higher—31 percent of all traffic fatalities for the year. While it is illegal to drive with a .08 blood alcohol concentration in all 50 states, driving ability can be impaired below the legal limit too. If you are drinking, do not drive. If you plan to drink, designate a non-drinking driver.

### **Fireworks Safety**

Summer brings picnics, barbecues, parades and fireworks displays, especially around the 4th of July. Summer also brings an increase in injuries from backyard grills, bonfires and fireworks. In 2010, fireworks caused an estimated 15,500 reported fires, including 1,100 structure fires. These fires resulted in an estimated 8,600 people treated in emergency rooms for fireworks-related injuries, 39 percent of whom were under 15 years of age.

## BIRTHDAY!

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

2	Vernell Donaldson
4	Vindon Griffin Jr.
14	Gregory Smith
16	Sarah Mansuetti
20	Derek McAlarney
22	Robert Feldman
31	Michael Jackson

### DID YOU KNOW?



The Sun makes up about 99.8% of the weight of our entire solar system. (Jupiter contains most of the rest).

The Sun is about 4.5 billion years old and is expected to shine for another 5 billion years.

The sun's strong gravitational pull holds Earth and the other planets in place. It keeps the planets orbiting inside the solar system.

The sun is about 92.96 million miles away and is the closest star to Earth. Our Sun is an average star, meaning its size, age, and temperature fall in about the middle of the ranges of these properties for all stars. While some in our galaxy are nearly as old as the universe, about 15 billion years, our sun is a 2nd-generation star, only 4.6 billion years old. Some of its material came from former stars.

In just one hour, the earth receives more energy from the sun than the whole world uses in an entire year.



The Greeks named the sun Helios. However, the Romans used the name Sol, which is still in use today. Because

of the important role the sun plays in our lives, it has been studied, perhaps, more than any other object in the universe, outside our own planet Earth. Our Sun has inspired mythology in almost all cultures, including ancient Egyptians, Aztecs, Native Americans, and Chinese.



Have a Safe and Happy 4th of July!

### **Yearly Work Anniversaries**

The following employees are celebrating their Work Anniversaries in July

### <u>1 to 5 Years</u> Theresa Scargill

Sarah Mansuetti

6 to 10 Years



### Over 10 Years

Virginia Lindquist (54) Walter Bates (51) Johnathan Rex (23) John Sherman (22)

You will receive your annual gift at the monthly spin.

### A LITTLE HUMOR

While working the dinner shift at a local restaurant, a waitress watched as an elderly couple ate. It seemed as if the man was the only one eating—first his appetizer, then his main, and then finally his dessert. All the while his wife just looked on, not even touching her food.



Confused, the waitress approached the woman and asked if there was anything she could get for her.

"No thank you," came her answer, "it's his turn for the teeth."

### Have a Summer Excursion Planned?

### **Consider the following before hitting the road:**

- Make sure your vehicle is up-to-date with maintenance requirements—tire rotations, oil changes, battery checks, etc.
- Prepare an emergency kit for your car, including water, non-perishable food and a first aid kit.



- Avoid common driving distractions by putting your cell phone in the back seat so you won't be tempted to check it.
- Bring games for young children to keep them occupied during long car rides.
- Schedule frequent breaks throughout your trip to avoid drowsy driving.
- Plan ahead and allow enough time to get to your destination so you don't feel the need to speed.

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### **General Safety—The Basics of Safety**

Through several years of investigating accidents and research in the field of accident reconstruction, leaders in the field of occupational accident prevention have concluded that there are specific reasons why accidents occur. They found that worker safety is dependent on worker behavior and human factors. They developed ten safety rules and, while some of you may have heard them before, they are worth repeating:

1. **STAY ALERT** — and stay alive. The more awake a worker is, the less likely he or she is to get hurt. If you are unsure how to operate equipment or perform a task, ask your supervisor. Don't guess and muddle through. Make sure you know in advance the correct, safe way to do it.



2. **WEAR THE RIGHT CLOTHES** — Work clothes should fit properly. Anything that can catch in machinery or trip you up is hazardous. Wear protective clothing and equipment as required.

USE THE RIGHT TOOLS — If you need a hammer, get a hammer. It may be handier to use a pair of pliers, wrench, screw driver or even your fist. But you will have only yourself to blame if you break your fingers.

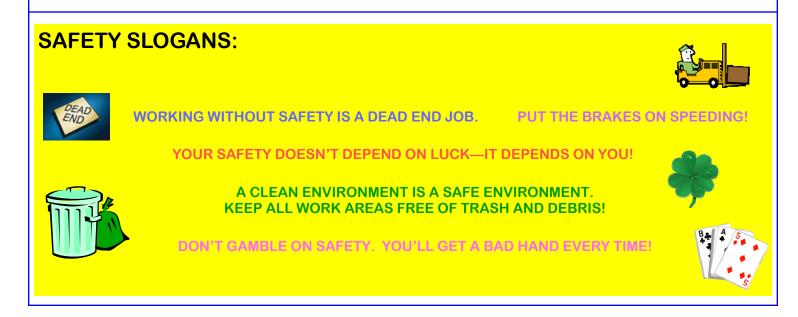


**LEARN HOW TO LIFT** — Lifting takes more than muscle; it is an art. Don't try to show how strong you are; you may end up in a hospital. Get help to handle anything that is too heavy or cumbersome for you.

- 5. **DON'T BE A PRANKSTER** Practical jokes and horseplay can be dangerous around machinery. If you feel the urge to play, resist it until after work.
- 6. **BE TIDY** Good housekeeping reduces hazards in the workplace or your home. Always put away tools when they are not in use. Keep the floors clean, pick up scraps, wipe up spills. A slip or trip can be fatal.
- REPORTING IS IMPORTANT Never fail to report accidents, defective equipment, and unsafe conditions.
- GET FIRST AID IMMEDIATELY if you're hurt—even if it is just a scratch. Neglect of the injury may lead to serious infection, weeks of lost time, even permanent injury.



- 9. BACK YOUR SAFETY PROGRAM If you have an idea you believe will reduce accidents, tell your supervisor about it. Set an example by obeying safety rules. Cooperate with your safety committee.
- 10. **NEVER TAKE A CHANCE** Next to sheer carelessness, the short cut is probably the biggest killer of all. To save a minute or two, you may lose a lifetime. Whatever you are doing, if you are not doing it safely, you are not doing it right!



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