

RETIREMENT!



Chuck Klammer, Irene Klammer,
John Kapsner on Irene's 89 Birthday

Let's have a party!

It's just so easy to say, but there are so many details that have to be nailed down when you want to honor someone correctly.



Irene getting her corsage pinned on by daughter Karolyn

This was the case when we decided to throw 89 year old Irene Klammer a retirement party. Irene is still coming to work daily to oversee the Accounts Payable and Receivable areas of the Company operations but we wanted to honor her for all of her contributions to AFI.

Chuck Klammer, CEO of Associated Finishing was told that he could not retire until his mother did – thus the motivation behind planning the party.

We got the family to go through the many pictures that have accumulated over the years and pick out a few memorable ones. Thundera Multimedia was gracious enough (of course how could son-in-law Mark and grandson Quentin say no!!) to put together a top notch DVD of music, narration, and pictures of the many exploits of Irene Klammer.

We even had greetings from Iraq as Jamison Burgess, deployed Army National Guard Staff Sergeant, AFI employee and husband of granddaughter Amy Burgess called and congratulated Irene on the honor. There were pictures of Jamison on a camel and a picture of a thermometer showing the daytime temperature over there of 157 degrees Fahrenheit!

The party was held at the Country Inn and Suites in Mankato. It was a time of reminiscing and greeting friends and relatives that don't get together as often as they would like.

Chuck Klammer was the master of ceremonies and made good on his promise not to turn the evening into a total roast! You can be sure the stories got better as the night progressed into a family reunion after the dinner!

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QUALITY DOES COST!



Inspection Certification classes teach employees of requirements



Employees learn the tools of the trade in checking the powder adhesion

A company can go two directions when it comes to quality costs. One direction is that it can expend dollars by reacting to customer rejects or the other direction is that the company can invest dollars proactively by eliminating customer rejects. Associated Finishing chose the latter direction. They did this by utilizing basic testing methods that are standard in the coatings industry and including personal accountability for quality. The whole process of introducing this change came through the training of supervisors, lead people, and key shop personnel from the plant.

Each Inspector was trained in the following testing methods:

- A visual check of the painted part against a standardized paint chip to assure that applied paint is the correct color and gloss.
- Performing thickness readings to insure that coating meets the product specifications.
- Solvent rub to assure that coating has been cured properly.
- Performing a crosshatch test per ASTM specifications to assure that paint is adhering to the part.
- An Inspection Certification form is filled in with the test results and signed off by a certified inspector. This form is sent along with the job.
- At final inspection, each finished job is inspected by using C=0 inspection criteria.

Finally, all of the test results are recorded into a data base that will allow for analysis in improving Associated Finishing's quality program.

SIZZLIN AT THE AFI PICNIC

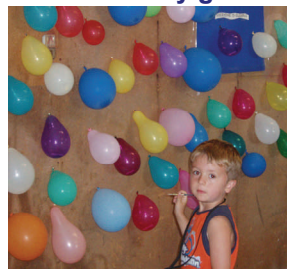
Friday, July 14 proved to be the beginning of the hottest weekend of the year! But when it's time for the group to gather and celebrate another great year at AFI—well, there's no stopping us. The day topped out at 98 degrees and the hardy and determined organizers made sure that the beverages were cold and the entertainment was hotter than hot! The picnic was hosted by CEO Chuck Klammer at his farm south of Mankato. Chuck and his merry men roasted a whole hog and several turkeys on his custom made roaster. There was quality control at every phase—from making sure the meat was properly seasoned to ensuring that the beer was cold and frosty. There was entertainment for the kids in the form of a fish pond, and a large multi-level blowup bouncer and ice cold well water running through a sprinkler to cool the kids off. It was so hot that clothes were optional (at least for the kids!) Everyone pitched in to make it an enjoyable evening that was topped off by Casino night—which if you went by the hooping and hollering—proved to be a success. Fans were a hot commodity and much appreciated. Many door prizes were handed out and many guests had big smiles on their faces.



The prize patrol unloads!



Hog roasts are delicious!



Which one has the \$100?



Chillin' in 98 degree heat



Ahhh! Cool & refreshing



The kids bounced despite the heat!



Everyone is a winner at AFI Casino Night!



YES WE CAN!