

Campin' Out



The Smith and Olfert Families become better acquainted over a game of "Arizona Crazy Golf"



Kelly Stevens (materials handling) breaks a balloon containing a cash prize of \$1 - \$20



Ken Wikre (metal prep) and his wife, Terry, enjoying the evening out together.



"Like father, Like son." Bill Neegard (Liquid Painter) and 2 yr. old William, Jr. (Check out the identical body postures here!!)



Grilling the steaks is Tom Franzmann, husband of materials handler, Tammy.



"And, thanks for the good food even the beans!" Tyler Niss, age 4



VP Ted Screyer's Family "Shootin' Hoops"



"There's' nothing like a campfire!", says Grandpa Chuck Klammer. But, year old Philip, isn't so sure.

Fridays at AFI are generally the most laid-back day of the week. Most departments are finishing up current orders, or are tidying up their work stations, ready to high-tail-it for home as soon as the shift ends. But, on Friday July 11th, our employees were out of the door even earlier than usual. This day they would collect their families, or a special guest, for the company picnic & "camp out" on Jefferson Lake!

Our summer festival is different every year, but each has a similar focus. This gathering is the means by which our management staff show their appreciation to the people under their supervision. It also affords us all the opportunity to meet the people most important in one another's lives. The planning & implementing of this special day begins months in advance, involving hours of hard work over and above supervisory duties at AFI.

Shari Small (*data entry*) and her husband, Vince, have owned and operated the Wise Stop Resort on Lake Jefferson for many years. Shari has hosted smaller AFI gatherings before, but never the entire company all at once! This facility proved ideal for our needs by offering camping, tidy cabins, swimming, boating, fishing and ample space for all manner of outdoor recreational activities.

Probably the most unique feature of our summer festival is the *gifting*. In years past, this party was billed as "Christmas in July" because each and every person receives a gift corresponding to a number randomly drawn from a cap. If the gift received is one which is not needed, swapping with someone else is certainly an option ... should an agreeable trade be negotiated. Who knows, in the process, one just might make a new friend. By contrast, each child is given an *age-appropriate* gift selected especially for them by the prize committee. (Swapping/haggling definitely NOT encouraged!)

*Powder Coating -- Liquid Coating -- Pad Printing
Paint Stripping -- Silkscreening -- R.F.I. Shielding*

AFI Rocks

Each June in a limestone quarry outside of Mankato, a very special community event takes place. "Rockin' in the Quarry" is a free outdoor family concert which features several local bands and the entire Mankato Symphony Orchestra. Associated Finishing has supported this event since it's 1999 inception in both spirit and participation. It is a most interesting gathering. People arrive with lawn chairs, picnic baskets and their children in tow to spend an afternoon and evening listening to a wide variety of good music



while enjoying the company of friends and family. Children are free to run and play on the huge mountains of gravel (with the quarry's blessing); enjoy rides on mule drawn wagons - which come supplied with a historian who will tell them all about the local stone quarries and the beautiful prairie land surrounding them; or, just spend precious time together with their parents and siblings.

AFI currently has two employees who perform at this event. Ted Schreyer (*VP Operations*) plays tuba with the Blue Ox Jazz Babies and Kait Klammer (*Occ. Health*) is a violinist in the full orchestra. Each year we also send out a team of 4-6 fellows to help in whatever capacity is most needed. Our guys have done everything from parking cars to setting up the stage and the entire sound system. Whatever the assignment, AFI's volunteers have given it their all and have still managed to have a grand time in the process!

What was our job this year, you ask? I suppose we might call it "*crowd control*". AFI got to supervise the loading and unloading of hundreds of little kids and their parents..... all of whom seemed to want to ride the "Mule Train" at exactly the same moment!



The Blue Ox Jazz Babies



AFI Crew Lft to Rt: Larry Pfeffer (Maint.) & his son Aaron; Chuck Klammer (Pres); Gene Hoffman (Painter).



"All Aboard!"

Regulations Rule!



Painters L-R: Jeremiah Frasher, Nathan Fitzpatrick, Collin Burk, Jeff Sorum, and John Stevens don masks and hoods while Respirator Training Instructors Diane Prom and Kait Klammer, RN conduct annual fit testing.

An entire year can slip by so quickly. It seems we've just completed all of annual training sessions for the various regulatory agencies, and updated our company policies and procedures, when it's time to start the process all over again!

However, each year we manage to detect a few items or situations which might have possibly slipped through 'corporate cracks' had it not been for our annual refresher classes.

Pictured on the left are just five of the twenty-five employees who had their protective gear rechecked for proper fit and function.

Should any problem have been discovered, a new mask (or possibly, an entirely different style of mask) would be issued to the painter. Then, a second fit test would have been conducted in the new equipment to be certain it was able to prevent all contamination from reaching his or her lungs.